

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: SEARCH OF STUDENT LOCKERS AND VEHICLES IN STUDENT PARKING LOTS AND USE OF ANIMALS TO SEARCH

ADOPTED: January 23, 2012

REVISED:

SOUTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

<p>1. Purpose</p> <p>2. Guidelines</p> <p>Commonwealth v. Cass, 709 A2d 350 (PA Super. 1998)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">227.1 SEARCH OF STUDENT LOCKERS AND VEHICLES IN STUDENT PARKING LOTS AND USE OF ANIMALS TO SEARCH</p> <p>The district supports the elimination of the possession or use of illegal substances/devices. The board wants to convey a strong message to the community, faculty, staff, and student body discouraging the use or possession of illegal substances.</p> <p>In order to protect the health, welfare, and safety of all students and to detect the possession and use of drugs on school property, it shall be the policy of the school district to permit the administration to conduct school-wide searches of school property, on a periodic and random basis, for the purpose of detecting the presence of illegal substances, including the use of trained animals as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When approved in advance by the Superintendent or his/her designee in consultation with the school district solicitor, a random search may be conducted when there are circumstances, events, or information tending to indicate significant drug use, possession, or trafficking among students in school. 2. The administration shall authorize the search and have a designee on hand while the search is taking place. 3. Parents and students will be notified of this policy through its inclusion in the student handbook. 4. All school property such as lockers, classrooms, school parking lots and vehicles within such boundaries, and storage areas may be searched. 5. Individual(s) shall not be subjected to a search by animals. 6. Once notification has been given to parents and students, the school district will have met its obligation to advertise the searches. Additional notices need not be given and actual times or dates of planned searches need not be released in advance. 7. Law enforcement agencies will be given full authorization to investigate and prosecute any person(s) found to be responsible for illegal substance(s) on school property.
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