

Student Privacy and Searches

Personal privacy is a fundamental aspect of individual liberty. All students possess the constitutional right to be secure in their persons, papers and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures. Staff shall take particular care to respect students' privacy.

School officials have authority to maintain order and discipline in the schools and to protect students from exposure to illegal drugs, weapons and contraband. The superintendent, the principal and other staff designated by the superintendent shall have the authority to conduct reasonable searches on school property as provided by board policy.

A search is required when there are reasonable grounds to suspect a student has illegal drugs, weapons and/or contraband on school grounds, transportation or at school events.

Cross References

3414 - Infectious Diseases
3245 - Students and Telecommunication Devices
3231 - Student Records

Legal References

RCW 13.64.060 Power and capacity of emancipated minor
RCW 28A.320.040 Bylaws for board and school government
RCW 28A.600.020 Exclusion of student from classroom — Written disciplinary procedures — Long-term suspension or expulsion
RCW 28A.600.210-240 School locker searches — Findings
RCW WAC 392-400-215 Student rights

Management Resources

Policy News, June 1999 School safety bills impact policy

Adoption Date: 05.22.78
Edmonds School District
Classification: Priority
Revised Dates: 07.12.94; 01.18.00; 07.10.18