

CHESTER COUNTY
 INTERMEDIATE
 UNIT 24

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: SEARCHES

ADOPTED: JUNE 15, 2011

REVISED: JUNE 15, 2016

226. SEARCHES	
<p>1. Purpose</p>	<p>The Board acknowledges the need for safe in-school storage of books, school materials, clothing and other personal property. The Intermediate Unit may provide, at its discretion, lockers or similar facilities for use by students for such storage.</p>
<p>2. Authority SC 914-A</p>	<p>It shall be the policy of the Board that all lockers provided by the Intermediate Unit for use by students for storage of personal property are and shall remain the property of the Intermediate Unit. As such, students shall have only a limited expectation of privacy in their lockers.</p> <p>No student may use a locker as a depository for any contraband, substance, object or material that is prohibited by law; Board policy or program rules; or constitutes a threat to the health, safety or welfare of the occupants of the Intermediate Unit building or the building itself.</p>
<p>Title 22 Sec. 12.14</p>	<p>The Board reserves the right to authorize its employees to inspect a student's locker at any time, based on reasonable suspicion, for the purpose of determining whether the locker is being used improperly for the storage of contraband, a substance or object the possession of which is illegal, or any material that poses a threat to the health, welfare or safety of the school population.</p>
<p>3. Delegation of Responsibility</p>	<p>The Board authorizes the administration to conduct random general searches of lockers when the Intermediate Unit has a compelling interest in protecting and preserving the health, safety or welfare of the school population.</p>
<p>Title 22 Sec. 12.14</p>	<p>Students, parents/guardians and staff shall be notified at least annually, or more often if deemed appropriate by administration, concerning the contents of this policy and Intermediate Unit procedures.</p> <p>The Executive Director or designee shall develop procedures to implement this policy.</p> <p>The building administrator or program supervisor shall be present whenever a student locker is inspected based on reasonable suspicion.</p>

<p>Pol. 225</p>	<p>The building administrator or program supervisor shall open a student's locker for inspection on the request of a law enforcement officer only on presentation of a duly authorized search warrant.</p> <p>The building administrator or program supervisor shall be responsible for promptly recording in writing each locker inspection; such record shall include the reason(s) for the search, persons present, objects found and their disposition.</p> <p>The building administrator or program supervisor shall be responsible for the safekeeping, confiscation and proper disposal of any substance, object or material found in a student's locker in violation of law, Board policy or program rules.</p> <p>Intermediate Unit officials are authorized to conduct reasonable searches of students and student property. Searches of a student's person, personal property (coats, hats, backpacks, schoolbags, wallets, purses, notebooks, gym bags, etc.) or vehicle parked on Intermediate Unit property may be conducted whenever a student's conduct creates a reasonable suspicion that a school rule, policy or law has been violated, or when there is reasonable suspicion that the student poses a threat to the health, safety or welfare of the school population. All contraband discovered in a search by school officials shall immediately be confiscated and reported to law enforcement officials and the Office of School Safety as required by Pennsylvania State Law and the Pennsylvania School Code.</p>
<p>4. Guidelines</p>	<p>Students shall assume responsibility for maintaining the security of their lockers.</p>
<p>Title 22 Sec. 12.14</p>	<p>Prior to an individual locker search, the student shall be notified and be given an opportunity to be present. However, when Intermediate Unit authorities have a reasonable suspicion that a locker contains materials which pose a threat to the health, welfare or safety of the school population, student lockers may be searched without prior warning.</p>
<p>Title 22 Sec. 12.14</p>	<p>Illegal and prohibited materials seized during a student search may be used as evidence against the student in an Intermediate Unit disciplinary proceeding.</p> <p>Searches conducted by the administration may include but not be limited to utilization of certified drug dogs, metal detection units, or any device used to protect the health, safety and welfare of the school population.</p> <p>References:</p> <p>School Code - 24 P.S. Sec. 914-A</p> <p>State Board of Education Regulations - 22 PA Code Sec. 12.14</p>

	Board Policy – 225
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