

Book	Policy Manual
Section	200 Pupils
Title	Weapons
Number	218.1
Status	From PSBA
Legal	<u>1. 24 P.S. 1301-A</u> <u>2. 24 P.S. 1317.2</u> 3. Pol. 218 4. Pol. 233 <u>5. 22 PA Code 10.23</u> <u>6. 20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq</u> 7. Pol. 103.1 8. Pol. 113.1 9. Pol. 113.2 10. Pol. 805.1 <u>11. 24 P.S. 1302.1-A</u> 12. Pol. 805 <u>13. 24 P.S. 1303-A</u> <u>14. 22 PA Code 10.2</u> <u>15. 22 PA Code 10.21</u> <u>16. 22 PA Code 10.25</u> <u>17. 18 U.S.C. 921</u> <u>18. 18 U.S.C. 922</u> <u>22 PA Code 403.1</u> <u>18 Pa. C.S.A. 912</u> <u>20 U.S.C. 7114</u> <u>20 U.S.C. 7151</u> <u>34 CFR Part 300</u>

### **Purpose**

The Board recognizes the importance of a safe school environment relative to the educational process. Possession of weapons in the school setting is a threat to the safety of students and staff and is prohibited by law.

### **Definitions**

**Weapon** - the term shall include but not be limited to any knife, cutting instrument, cutting tool, nunchaku, firearm, shotgun, rifle, replica of a weapon, and any other tool, instrument or implement capable of inflicting serious bodily injury.**[1][2]**

**Possession** - a student is in possession of a weapon when the weapon is found on the person of the student; in the student's locker; and under the student's control while on school property, on property being used by the school, at any school function or activity, at any school event held away from the school, or while the student is coming to or from school.

### Authority

The Board prohibits students from possessing and bringing weapons and replicas of weapons into any school district buildings, onto school property, to any school-sponsored activity, and onto any public vehicle providing transportation to school or a school-sponsored activity **or while the student is coming to or from school.**[2][3]

The **Board** shall expel for a period of not less than one (1) year any student who violates this weapons policy. Such expulsion shall be given in conformance with formal due process proceedings required by law and Board policy. The Superintendent may recommend modifications of such expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis.[2][4]

In the case of a student with **a disability, including a student for whom an evaluation is pending**, the **district** shall take all steps required to comply with **state and federal laws and regulations, the procedures set forth in the memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement and Board policies.**[2][5][6][7][8][9][10]

### Delegation of Responsibility

**The Superintendent or designee shall react promptly to information and knowledge concerning possession of a weapon. Such action shall be in compliance with state law and regulations and with the procedures set forth in the memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement officials and the district's emergency preparedness plan.**[11][12][10]

### Guidelines

The Superintendent or designee shall **immediately** report incidents involving weapons on school property, **at any school-sponsored activity or on a conveyance providing transportation to or from a school or school-sponsored activity to the local police department that has jurisdiction over the school's property, in accordance with state law and regulations, the procedures set forth in the memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement and Board policies.**[11][13][2][14][15][10]

The Superintendent or designee shall **notify** the parent/guardian of **any student directly involved in an incident involving weapons as a victim or suspect immediately, as soon as practicable. The Superintendent or designee shall inform the parent/guardian whether or not the local police department that has jurisdiction over the school property has been or may be notified of the incident. The Superintendent or designee shall document attempts made to reach the parent/guardian.**[14][16][10]

**In accordance with state law, the Superintendent shall annually, by July 31, report all incidents involving possession of a weapon to the Office for Safe Schools on the required form.**[13][10]

The Superintendent or designee shall report all incidents **regarding** expulsion for possession of a weapon to the Department of Education.[2]

**The building principal** shall annually **inform** staff, students and parents/guardians **about**

**the Board policy prohibiting weapons and about their personal responsibility for the health, safety and welfare of the school community.**

An exception to this policy may be made by the Superintendent, who shall prescribe special conditions or administrative regulations to be followed.[2]

In accordance with federal law, possession or discharge of a firearm in, on, or within 1,000 feet of school grounds is prohibited. Violations shall be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency.[17][18]

#### Transfer Students

When the school district receives a student who transfers from a public or private school during an expulsion period for an offense involving a weapon, the district may assign that student to an alternative **assignment** or may provide alternative education, provided the assignment does not exceed the expulsion period.[2]

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Book	Policy Manual
Section	200 Pupils
Title	Terroristic Threats
Number	218.2
Status	From PSBA
Legal	<u>1. 18 Pa. C.S.A. 2706</u> <u>2. 22 PA Code 10.23</u> <u>3. 20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq</u> 4. Pol. 103.1 5. Pol. 113.1 6. Pol. 113.2 7. Pol. 805.1 <u>8. 24 P.S. 1302.1-A</u> 9. Pol. 805 <u>10. 22 PA Code 12.2</u> <u>11. 24 P.S. 1303-A</u> <u>12. 22 PA Code 10.2</u> <u>13. 22 PA Code 10.22</u> <u>14. 22 PA Code 11.25</u> <u>34 CFR Part 300</u> Pol. 233

### **Purpose**

The Board recognizes the danger that terroristic threats by students present to the safety and welfare of district students, staff and community. The Board acknowledges the need for an immediate and effective response to a situation involving such a threat.

### **Definitions**

**Communicate - shall mean to convey in person or by written or electronic means, including telephone, electronic mail, Internet, facsimile, telex and similar transmissions.[1]**

**Terroristic threat - shall mean a threat communicated either directly or indirectly to commit any crime of violence with the intent to terrorize another; to cause evacuation of a building, place of assembly or facility of public transportation; or to otherwise cause serious public inconvenience, or cause terror or serious public inconvenience with reckless disregard of the risk of causing such terror or inconvenience.[1]**

### **Authority**

The Board prohibits any district student from communicating terroristic threats directed at any student, employee, Board member, community member or **property owned, leased or**

**being used by the district.**

In the case of a student with a **disability, including a student for whom an evaluation is pending**, the district **shall** take all steps **required** to comply with **state and federal laws and regulations, the procedures set forth in the memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement and Board policies.**[2][3][4][5][6][7]

If a student is expelled for making terroristic threats, the Board may require, prior to readmission, that the student provide competent and credible evidence that the student does not pose a risk of harm to others.

### **Delegation of Responsibility**

The Superintendent **or designee shall** react promptly to information and knowledge concerning a possible or actual terroristic threat. **Such action shall be in compliance with state law and regulations and with the procedures set forth in the memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement officials and the district's emergency preparedness plan.**[8][9][7]

### **Guidelines**

Staff members and students shall be **made aware of their responsibility** for informing the building principal regarding any information or knowledge relevant to a possible or actual terroristic threat.[10]

The building principal shall immediately inform the Superintendent after receiving a report of such a threat.

**The Superintendent or designee may report incidents involving terroristic threats on school property, at any school-sponsored activity or on a conveyance providing transportation to or from a school or school-sponsored activity to the local police department that has jurisdiction over the school's property, in accordance with state law and regulations, the procedures set forth in the memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement and Board policies.**[8][11][12][13][7]

**The Superintendent or designee shall notify the parent/guardian of any student directly involved in an incident involving a terroristic threat as a victim or suspect immediately, as soon as practicable. The Superintendent or designee shall inform the parent/guardian whether or not the local police department that has jurisdiction over the school property has been or may be notified of the incident. The Superintendent or designee shall document attempts made to reach the parent/guardian.**[12][14][7]

**In accordance with state law, the Superintendent shall annually, by July 31, report all incidents of terroristic threats to the Office for Safe Schools on the required form.**[11][7]

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Book	Policy Manual
Section	200 Pupils
Title	Dress and Grooming
Number	221
Status	From PSBA
Legal	<u>1. 24 P.S. 1317.3</u> <u>2. 22 PA Code 12.11</u> 3. Pol. 325

### **Purpose**

The Board recognizes that each student's mode of dress and grooming is a manifestation of personal style and individual preference.

### **Authority**

The Board has the authority to impose limitations on students' dress in school. The Board will not interfere with the right of students and their parents/guardians to make decisions regarding their appearance, except when their choices disrupt the educational program of the schools or constitute a health or safety hazard.[1][2]

The Board may require students to wear standard dress or uniforms, which may be required district-wide or by individual schools.[1][2]

Students may be required to wear certain types of clothing while participating in physical education classes, technical education, extracurricular activities, or other situations where special attire may be required to ensure the health or safety of the student.[2]

### **Delegation of Responsibility**

The building principal or designee shall be responsible to monitor student dress and grooming, and to enforce Board policy and school rules governing student dress and grooming.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that all school rules implementing this policy impose only the minimum necessary restrictions on the exercise of the student's taste and individuality.[2]

Staff members shall be instructed to demonstrate, by example, positive attitudes toward neatness, cleanliness, propriety, modesty, and good sense in attire and appearance.[3]

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Book	Policy Manual
Section	200 Pupils
Title	Tobacco
Number	222
Status	From PSBA
Legal	<u>1. 35 P.S. 1223.5</u> <u>2. 18 Pa. C.S.A. 6305</u> <u>3. 20 U.S.C. 7183</u> <u>4. 22 PA Code 10.23</u> <u>5. 20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq</u> <u>6. Pol. 103.1</u> <u>7. Pol. 113.1</u> <u>8. Pol. 113.2</u> <u>9. Pol. 805.1</u> <u>10. 24 P.S. 1302.1-A</u> <u>11. 24 P.S. 1303-A</u> <u>12. 22 PA Code 10.2</u> <u>13. 22 PA Code 10.22</u> <u>14. 22 PA Code 10.25</u> <u>15. 18 Pa.C.S.A. 6306.1</u> <u>16. Pol. 218</u> <u>24 P.S. 510</u> <u>22 PA Code 403.1</u> <u>20 U.S.C. 7114</u> <u>20 U.S.C. 7181 et seq</u> <u>34 CFR Part 300</u>

### **Purpose**

The Board recognizes that tobacco presents a health and safety hazard that can have serious consequences for both users and nonusers and the safety and environment of the schools.

### **Definition**

For purposes of this policy, **tobacco includes** a lighted or unlighted cigarette, cigar, pipe or other smoking product **or material** and smokeless tobacco in any form.**[1]**

### **Authority**

The Board prohibits possession, use **or sale of** tobacco by students at any time in a school building and on any property, buses, vans and vehicles that are owned, leased or controlled by the school district.**[2][1][3]**



The Board prohibits possession, use **or sale of** tobacco by students at school-sponsored activities that are held off school property.

In the case of a student with a disability, including a student for whom an evaluation is pending, the district shall take all steps required to comply with state and federal laws and regulations, the procedures set forth in the memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement and Board policies.[4][5][6][7][8][9]

### **Delegation of Responsibility**

The Superintendent or designee shall annually notify students, parents/guardians and staff about the district's tobacco policy by publishing such policy in the student handbook, parent newsletters, posted notices, **district website** and other efficient methods.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop **administrative regulations** to implement this policy.

### **Guidelines**

**The Superintendent or designee may report incidents of possession, use or sale of tobacco by students on school property, at any school-sponsored activity or on a conveyance providing transportation to or from a school or school-sponsored activity to the local police department that has jurisdiction over the school's property, in accordance with state law and regulations, the procedures set forth in the memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement and Board policies.**  
[10][11][12][13][9]

**The Superintendent or designee shall notify the parent/guardian of any student directly involved in an incident involving possession, use or sale of tobacco immediately, as soon as practicable. The Superintendent or designee shall inform the parent/guardian whether or not the local police department that has jurisdiction over the school property has been or may be notified of the incident. The Superintendent or designee shall document attempts made to reach the parent/guardian.**  
[12][14][9]

**In accordance with state law, the Superintendent shall annually, by July 31, report all incidents of possession, use or sale of tobacco by students to the Office for Safe Schools on the required form.**  
[11][9]

A student convicted of possessing or using tobacco in violation of this policy may be fined up to **fifty dollars** (\$50) plus court costs or admitted to alternative adjudication in lieu of imposition of a fine.  
[15]

**A student found to be in violation of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action, in accordance with Board policy.**  
[16]

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Book	Policy Manual
Section	200 Pupils
Title	Use of Motor Vehicles
Number	223
Status	From PSBA
Legal	<u>1. 24 P.S. 779</u> <u>2. 24 P.S. 1519</u> <u>24 P.S. 510</u>

### **Purpose**

The Board regards the use of motor vehicles for travel to and from school by students as an assumption of responsibility by parents/guardians and students.

### **Authority**

The Board shall permit the use of motor vehicles by secondary students in accordance with district **administrative regulations**, provided that such students are licensed drivers and have followed established procedures and obtained the required permit **and have been granted permission by the building principal to drive a motor vehicle on school grounds.**<sup>[1]</sup>

**The Board prohibits the use of skateboards, mini-bikes, ATVs and/or unauthorized vehicles on school property.**

The Board shall not be responsible for motor vehicles that are **lost**, stolen, or damaged, **or for injuries arising from their use.**

### **Delegation of Responsibility**

The building principal or designee shall disseminate **administrative regulations** for operating and parking of **authorized** motor vehicles to affected students.

The building principal or designee shall establish standards for granting permits, which contain the warning that infraction of rules may result in revocation of the permit.

### **Guidelines**

A parking fee may be assessed.

Motor vehicles not displaying an authorized parking permit may be towed, at the owner's expense.

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Book	Policy Manual
Section	200 Pupils
Title	Care of School Property
Number	224
Status	From PSBA
Legal	<u>1. 24 P.S. 777</u> <u>2. Pol. 218</u> <u>3. Pol. 233</u> <u>4. 24 P.S. 109</u> <u>5. 24 P.S. 801</u> <u>6. 24 P.S. 1338</u>

### **Purpose**

The Board believes that the schools should help students learn to respect property and develop feelings of pride in community institutions.

### **Authority**

The Board charges each student in the district's schools with responsibility for the proper care of the school property, school supplies and equipment entrusted to the student's use.

It is the policy of the Board that students who willfully cause damage to school property shall be subject to disciplinary measures. Students and others who damage or deface school property may be prosecuted and punished under law. Parents/Guardians shall be held accountable for the actions of their child.[1][2][3]

The Board may report to appropriate juvenile authorities any student whose damage of school property is serious or chronic in nature. In no case shall referral to juvenile authorities be made without prior notification to the student's parent/guardian.[6]

### **Delegation of Responsibility**

The Superintendent or designee shall develop **administrative regulations** to implement this policy, which include rules for safekeeping and accounting of textbooks, supplies and equipment and an established schedule of fines for lost or damaged textbooks, supplies and equipment.[4][5]

The Superintendent shall submit a report on incidences of vandalism to the Board on each occurrence.

Vandalism reports shall include the number and kind of incident, cost to the district and related information the Superintendent deems necessary.

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Book	Policy Manual
Section	200 Pupils
Title	Searches
Number	226
Status	From PSBA
Legal	<u>1. PA Const. Art. I Sec. 8</u> <u>2. 24 P.S. 510</u> <u>3. 22 PA Code 12.14</u> <u>4. U.S. Const. Amend. IV</u> 5. Pol. 218.1 6. Pol. 223 7. Pol. 227 8. Pol. 805.1 9. Pol. 226.1 Commonwealth v. Cass, 551 Pa. 25, 709 A.2d 350, 355-56 (1998) Inre F.B., 555 Pa. 661, 726 A.2d 361, 368 (1999) Safford Unified School Dist. No. 1 v. Redding, 129 S.Ct. 2633 (U.S. 2009)

### **Purpose**

The Board acknowledges the need **to respect the rights of students to be free from unreasonable searches and seizures while fulfilling the district's interest in protecting and preserving the health, safety and welfare of the school population, enforcing rules of conduct, and maintaining an appropriate atmosphere conducive to learning.**

### **Authority**

School officials **have the authority to lawfully search students or their belongings, including lockers, automobiles, electronic devices, purses, backpacks, clothing, and other possessions, without a warrant, when in school, on school grounds or when otherwise under school supervision, if there is a reasonable suspicion that the place or thing to be searched contains prohibited contraband, material that would pose a threat to the health, safety and welfare of the school population, or evidence that there has been a violation of the law, Board policy, or school rules. The scope and extent of searches must be reasonable in relation to the nature of the suspected evidence, contraband or dangerous material and to the grounds for suspecting that it may be found in the place or thing being searched.**[1][2][3][4]

**The district has a compelling interest in protecting and preserving the health, safety and welfare of the school population, which under certain circumstances may warrant general or random searches of students and their lockers, vehicles or other belongings without individualized suspicion, for the purpose of finding or preventing entry onto school property of controlled substances, weapons or other dangerous materials.**[5][6][7]

## **Delegation of Responsibility**

**The Board authorizes the administration to conduct searches of students or their belongings, including lockers, automobiles, electronic devices, purses, backpacks, clothing, and other possessions in accordance with the standards set forth in this policy.**

**The Superintendent or designee, in consultation with the district solicitor, shall develop guidelines and procedures to implement this policy, and shall ensure that school staff who are involved in carrying out searches or determining when searches will be conducted receive appropriate periodic training about such procedures and currently applicable legal standards.[3]**

Students, parents/guardians and staff shall be notified at least annually, or more often if deemed appropriate by administration, about the **standards** and procedures **in effect pursuant to** this policy.

## **Guidelines**

### **Individualized Suspicion Searches**

**Students or their belongings, including lockers, automobiles, electronic devices, purses, backpacks, clothing, and other possessions, may be searched without a warrant when in school, on school grounds or when otherwise under school supervision, if there is a reasonable suspicion that the place or thing to be searched contains prohibited contraband, material that would pose a threat to the health, safety and welfare of the school population, or evidence that there has been a violation of the law, Board policy, or school rules. The scope and extent of searches must be reasonable in relation to the nature of the suspected evidence, contraband or dangerous material and to the grounds for suspecting that it may be found in the place or thing being searched.[3]**

**In determining whether reasonable suspicion exists, the principal or designee always should be able to articulate what is being looked for, and why it is thought to be located in the particular place to be searched. The scope of a search should be limited to the place or places the item sought is believed to be.**

**Examination by school staff of text messages, call logs, files, images or other data contained in a student's mobile telephone or other electronic device, without the student's consent, normally constitutes a search that must be justified by reasonable suspicion that material in violation of law, district policy or school rules, or evidence of such a violation, is contained in the particular files, directories or other data locations being examined in the device.**

### **Random or General Searches Without Individualized Suspicion**

**Under certain circumstances, random or general searches of students and their belongings, including student lockers or vehicles parked on school property, may be conducted during the school day or upon entry into school buildings or school activities, in the absence of suspicion focused on a particular student or students, for the purpose of finding or preventing entry onto school property or activities of controlled substances, weapons or other dangerous materials. Such searches normally will be conducted in a minimally intrusive manner using screening methods such as dogs or other animals trained to detect controlled substances,**

**explosives or other harmful materials by smell, as well as metal detectors and other technology. When such screening methods provide a reasonable suspicion that particular students, items or places possess or contain controlled substances, weapons or other dangerous material, screening may be followed by physical searches of those particular students, items or places on an individualized basis.[9]**

**Random or general searches for weapons may be conducted when there are circumstances, information or events tending to indicate increased likelihood that students may be armed or headed for physical confrontation because of community strife or tensions, or as a continuation or escalation of a prior incident, in or out of school, which threatens to spill over into school, into a school-sponsored activity, or into other times and places that students are under school supervision.**

**Random or general searches for controlled substances may be conducted when there are circumstances, events or information tending to indicate significant drug use, possession or trafficking among students in school.**

**Random or general searches not based on individualized suspicion must be approved in advance by the Superintendent or designee, in consultation with the district solicitor. Coordination with law enforcement officials will be accomplished as provided in the memorandum of understanding with the applicable law enforcement agency.[8]**

#### **Searches Upon Consent**

**Searches may be conducted at any time, with or without reasonable suspicion, if the student has given knowing and voluntary consent specific to the place to be searched.**

**The administration may establish rules and procedures governing certain privileges enjoyed by students, such as the privilege of parking a vehicle on school grounds, that make the student's consent to random searches or inspections a condition of access to the privilege.[6]**

#### **Searches by or at the Request of Law Enforcement Officials**

**The legal standards governing searches initiated by school officials are less strict than the standards applicable to law enforcement authorities in many situations. When searches of students, student belongings, vehicles or lockers are conducted by or at the request of law enforcement officials, with or without the involvement of school staff, the law enforcement officials are solely responsible for ensuring that a warrant has been issued or that the circumstances otherwise permit the search to be lawfully conducted in accordance with the standards applicable to law enforcement actions. School staff will not interfere with or obstruct searches initiated by law enforcement, but may assist when law enforcement officials have requested such assistance and have represented that a warrant has been issued or that they otherwise have proper authority for a lawful search.[8]**

#### **Locker Inspections and Searches**

**Lockers are assigned to or otherwise made available to students as a convenience for the safe storage of books, clothing, school materials and limited personal property, and to facilitate movement between classes and activities and to and from school. Such lockers are and shall remain the property of the school district, and to the extent students have any expectation of privacy of lockers at all, it is very limited.**



No student may **place or keep in** a locker **any** substance or object that is prohibited by law, Board policy or **school** rules, or **that** constitutes a threat to the health, safety or welfare of the occupants of the school building or the building itself. **Students are required to ensure that their lockers do not contain spoiled food items or beverages, or soiled clothing which may attract pests, create odors or cause unhealthy conditions. A student locker may be opened and inspected for cleanliness, with or without the consent of the student, whenever there are odors, pests or other indications that a locker contains spoiled food, soiled clothing in need of laundering or similarly unhealthy matter.**

Students **are exclusively responsible for locking** their **assigned** lockers **to ensure** the security **of their personal belongings and school property entrusted to them.** **Students are permitted to secure their assigned lockers only with locks provided by the district, or if the district does not provide locks, personal combination locks for which the combination has been provided to designated school staff.**

At the beginning of each school year, secondary **building** principals **may offer** locks for student lockers on a deposit fee basis. The deposit shall be refunded to students **upon proper return of the applicable** lock. Personal locks may be **utilized solely** for gym **courses** and shall be removed at the end of the **course** period.

Prior to an individual locker search **or inspection**, the student **to whom the locker is assigned** shall be notified and be given **a reasonable** opportunity to be present. However, when **there is** 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 **notice to the student.**

The principal or **a designated staff person** shall be present whenever a student locker is inspected **for cleanliness or is searched.** The principal **or designee** shall **maintain written records of all occasions when a locker is searched or inspected.** Such records shall include the reason(s) for the search, persons present, objects found and their disposition.

### **Searches Involving Removal of Clothing or Examination Beneath Clothing**

Searches of students involving the removal of undergarments or examination beneath undergarments are subject to stricter standards than are required to justify other searches of a student's person or belongings. Such searches are permitted only when the basis for suspicion establishes either:

1. That the reasons for believing that the items being searched for are concealed specifically inside undergarments are stronger reasons than grounds that would support only a more general reasonable suspicion that the student is in possession of the items or has them somewhere on the student's person; or,
2. That the quantity or nature of the items being sought present a higher level of danger to the school population than other kinds of contraband.

Searches involving the removal of or examination beneath any clothing of a student, other than jackets, coats or other outerwear, shall be conducted only by a staff person of the same gender as the student, with at least one (1) other staff person of the same gender present as a witness, and in a location assuring privacy from observation by persons not involved in the search or of the opposite sex.

Searches involving the removal of undergarments or examination beneath undergarments will be conducted only after consultation with the district solicitor.

### **Handling and Disposal of Items Found in the Course of Searches**

**Any items or material found during a search or inspection, the student's possession of which is in violation of law, district policies or school rules, or otherwise is evidence of such a violation, may be confiscated, and may be used as evidence in student discipline proceedings or a criminal investigation, even if such items or material were not the original objective of the search or inspection.**

The principal shall be responsible **to ensure that confiscated items or material are properly inventoried and secured until the conclusion of disciplinary action, if any, and are then properly disposed of if not appropriate to be returned to the student. Items or materials that are evidence of a criminal offense, or that are not lawful for ordinary citizens to possess will be promptly turned over to proper law enforcement authorities for custody or disposal.**

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Book	Policy Manual
Section	200 Pupils
Title	Metal Detector Device
Number	226.1
Status	From PSBA
Legal	<u>1. 18 Pa. C.S.A. 912</u> <u>2. 24 P.S. 510</u> 3. Pol. 218.1 4. Pol. 226 5. Pol. 218

### **Purpose**

The **Board regards** student safety as a top priority and believes enhanced security measures **encourages** a safe **educational** environment. **In recognition of the belief that students support the promotion of a safe school environment, the district shall initiate** a proactive stance **towards** safety by requiring students and visitors to pass through metal **and/or** weapon detectors, be scanned with a handheld metal detector device and **undergo** backpack **examination** upon entering **school property**.**[4]**

### **Authority**

In Pennsylvania, it is a criminal offense to possess a weapon in a school building, on school grounds or on a school bus. The state also established rights allowing school Boards to establish rules **and regulations** governing the conduct of students attending public schools. **[1][2][3]**

The Board authorizes the purchase, installment and utilization of metal detector **devices** in district schools **in order** to **screen individuals** entering school property and to **advance the overall protection of individuals in the schools**.

### **Delegation of Responsibility**

**In order to maintain a safe learning environment, school administrators shall exercise the right to conduct searches of individuals or persons and/or belongings. Searches will be conducted by school administration based upon reasonable suspicion. Designated school staff may conduct a search of the individual and may inspect the contents of any backpack and personal belonging that activates the metal detector for the limited purpose of determining whether a weapon shall be concealed.****[4]**

**The Superintendent of designee shall develop and implement** administrative regulations regarding metal detector devices.

### **Guidelines**

### **Notice of Metal Detector Device Use**

Signs shall be posted at building entrances.

A full-body scan shall be required for **students and** visitors to enter **school** property. Any visitor refusing to pass through a metal detector **device** shall be required to immediately leave the property.

Metal detector **device** searches may be conducted at the district's discretion before or during any extracurricular, **social or interscholastic athletic event**.

In order to expedite the process, students shall only be permitted to carry a **district** see-through, mesh-style bookbag into the building during school hours. The district shall approve and provide an acceptable bookbag for purchase.

The district shall not be held liable for any damage to **an individual's personal belongings** during a metal detector device **screening or search**.

**Students**, parents/guardians and community residents shall receive annual notification of the metal detector device policy.

The **metal detector device** policy and **applicable administrative regulations** shall be **available** on the district web site.

Violations shall result in disciplinary action **in accordance with Board policy, rules and administrative regulations.**[5]

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Book	Policy Manual
Section	200 Pupils
Title	Controlled Substances/Paraphernalia
Number	227
Status	From PSBA

## Legal

1. 35 P.S. 780-102
2. 21 U.S.C. 812
3. Pol. 210
4. Pol. 210.1
5. 24 P.S. 510
6. 24 P.S. 511
7. 22 PA Code 12.3
8. 22 PA Code 10.23
9. 20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq
10. Pol. 103.1
11. Pol. 113.1
12. Pol. 113.2
13. Pol. 805.1
14. Pol. 218
15. Pol. 122
16. Pol. 123
17. 24 P.S. 1302.1-A
18. 24 P.S. 1303-A
19. 42 Pa. C.S.A. 8337
20. Pol. 233
21. 22 PA Code 10.2
22. 22 PA Code 10.21
23. 22 PA Code 10.22
24. 22 PA Code 10.25
25. 35 P.S. 807.1
26. 35 P.S. 807.2
27. Pol. 236
- 22 PA Code 403.1
- 35 P.S. 780-101 et seq
- 35 P.S. 807.1 et seq
- 20 U.S.C. 7114
- 20 U.S.C. 7161
- 21 U.S.C. 801 et seq
- 34 CFR Part 300
- Pol. 805

**Purpose**

The Board recognizes that the abuse of controlled substances is a serious problem with legal,

physical and social implications for the whole school community. As an educational institution **dedicated to the holistic well-being of each student**, the **utilization** of curriculum, classroom activities, community support and resources, strong and consistent administration and faculty efforts and rehabilitative and disciplinary **processes shall enable the schools** to strive to prevent abuse of controlled substances.

### **Definitions**

For purposes of this policy, **controlled substances** shall include all:[1][2]

1. Controlled substances prohibited by federal and state laws.
2. Look-alike drugs.
3. Alcoholic beverages.
4. Anabolic steroids.
5. Drug paraphernalia.
6. Any volatile solvents or inhalants, such as but not limited to glue and aerosol products.
7. Substances that when ingested cause a physiological effect that is similar to the effect of a controlled substance as defined by state or federal laws.
8. Prescription or **nonprescription (over-the-counter) medications**, except those for which permission for use in school has been granted pursuant to Board policy.[3][4]

For purposes of this policy, **under the influence** shall include any consumption or ingestion of controlled substances by a student.

**For purposes of this policy, look-alike drug shall include any pill, capsule, tablet, powder, plant matter or other item or substance that is designed or intended to resemble a controlled substance prohibited by this policy, or is used in a manner likely to induce others to believe the material is a controlled substance.**

**School Property - for the purposes of this policy**, shall include not only actual buildings, facilities and grounds on the school campus, but shall also include buses, school bus stops, school parking areas and any facility being used for a school function.

**Student Assistance Program (SAP) Team** - a multi-disciplinary team comprised of school personnel, teachers, staff, administrators, nurses, guidance counselors, probation officers, etc. The team shall be trained to understand and work on the issues of adolescent chemical use, abuse and dependency, and shall play a primary role in the identification and referral process of students.[27]

### **Authority**

The Board prohibits students from aiding in the procurement, using, possessing, distributing, and being under the influence of any controlled substances during school hours, at any time while on school property, at any school-sponsored activity on or off school property, and during the time spent traveling to and from school and to and from school-sponsored activities.[5][6][7]

The Board may require participation in drug counseling, rehabilitation, testing or other programs as a condition of reinstatement into the school's educational, extracurricular or

athletic programs resulting from violations of this policy.

**In the case of a student with a disability, including a student for whom an evaluation is pending, the district shall take all steps required to comply with state and federal laws and regulations, the procedures set forth in the memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement and Board policies.[8][9][10][11][12][13]**

#### Off-Campus Activities

This policy shall also apply to student conduct that occurs off school property and would **otherwise** violate the Code of Student Conduct if **any of the following circumstances exist:[14]**

1. **The conduct occurs during the time the student is traveling to and from school or traveling to and from school-sponsored activities, whether or not via school district furnished transportation.**
2. The student is a member of an extracurricular activity and has been notified that particular off-campus conduct could result in exclusion from such activities.[15][16]
3. Student expression or conduct materially and substantially disrupts the operations of the school, or the administration reasonably anticipates that the expression or conduct is likely to materially and substantially disrupt the operations of the school.
4. The conduct has a direct nexus to attendance at school or a school-sponsored activity, **for example**, a transaction **conducted** outside of school **pursuant to** an agreement **made in school**, that would violate the Code of Student Conduct **if conducted in school**.
5. The conduct involves the theft or vandalism of school property.
6. There is **otherwise** a nexus between the proximity or timing of the conduct in relation to the student's attendance at school or school-sponsored activities.

#### Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or designee shall develop **administrative regulations** to **identify** and control substance abuse in the schools which:

1. Establish procedures to **appropriately manage situations involving** students suspected of using, possessing, being under the influence, or distributing controlled substances.[17][18][19]
2. Disseminate to students, parents/guardians and staff the Board policy and **administrative regulations** governing student **use** of controlled substances.
3. Provide education concerning the dangers of abusing controlled substances.
4. **Establish procedures for education and readmission to school of students convicted of offenses involving controlled substances.**

#### Guidelines

**Violations** of this policy **may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion and referral for prosecution.[14][20]**

**The Superintendent or designee shall immediately report required incidents and may report discretionary incidents involving possession, use or sale of controlled substances on school property, at any school-sponsored activity or on a conveyance providing transportation to or from a school or school-sponsored activity to the local police department that has jurisdiction over the school's property, in accordance with state law and regulations, the procedures set forth in the memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement and Board policies.**[17][18][21][22][23][13]

**The Superintendent or designee shall notify the parent/guardian of any student directly involved in an incident involving possession, use or sale of controlled substances as a victim or suspect immediately, as soon as practicable. The Superintendent or designee shall inform the parent/guardian whether or not the local police department that has jurisdiction over the school property has been or may be notified of the incident. The Superintendent or designee shall document attempts made to reach the parent/guardian.**[21][24][13]

**In accordance with state law, the Superintendent shall annually, by July 31, report all incidents of possession, use or sale of controlled substances to the Office for Safe Schools.**[18][13]

In all cases involving students and controlled substances, the need to protect the school community from undue harm and exposure to drugs shall be recognized.

No student may be admitted to a program that seeks to identify and rehabilitate the potential abuser without the intelligent, voluntary and aware consent of the student and parent/guardian.

#### Anabolic Steroids

The Board prohibits the use of anabolic steroids by students involved in school-related athletics, except for a valid medical purpose. Body building and muscle enhancement, **increasing muscle bulk or strength, or the** enhancement of athletic ability are not valid medical purposes. Human Growth Hormone (HGH) shall not be included as an anabolic steroid.[25]

Students shall be made aware of the dangers of steroid use; that anabolic steroids are classified as controlled substances; and that their use, unauthorized possession, purchase, or sale could subject students to suspension, expulsion and/or criminal prosecution.[26][20]

#### Reasonable Suspicion/Testing

If based on the student's behavior, medical symptoms, vital signs or other observable factors, the building principal has reasonable suspicion that the student is under the influence of a controlled substance, the student may be required to submit to drug or alcohol **testing**. The testing may include but is not limited to the analysis of blood, urine, saliva, or the administration of a Breathalyzer test.

Last Modified by Elizabeth Flood on April 15, 2015



Book	Policy Manual
Section	200 Pupils
Title	Student Government
Number	228
Status	From PSBA
Legal	<u>1. 24 P.S. 511</u> Pol. 618

### **Purpose**

The Board acknowledges the importance of offering students the opportunity to participate in self government within the schools.

The purpose of student government shall be to develop student leadership, provide a learning experience in democratic decision-making and offer another avenue toward the realization of district goals.

### **Authority**

The Board establishes that students shall have the right to organize, conduct meetings, elect officers and representatives, and petition the Board.<sup>[1]</sup>

The Board will recognize the Student Council as the official voice of the student body.

The charter, constitution or bylaws of the organization for student government shall be duly adopted by the members of the student body it represents and approved by the Board.

The Board shall appoint a qualified member of the faculty to serve as an advisor for student government activities.<sup>[1]</sup>

### **Delegation of Responsibility**

The Superintendent shall develop **administrative** regulations to implement this policy.

Last Modified by Elizabeth Flood on April 15, 2015

Book	Policy Manual
Section	200 Pupils
Title	Student Fundraising
Number	229
Status	From PSBA
Legal	<u>1. 24 P.S. 511</u> 2. Pol. 618

### **Purpose**

The Board acknowledges that solicitation of funds from students must be limited because compulsory attendance laws make the student a captive donor and such solicitation may disrupt the educational program of the schools.

### **Definition**

For purposes of this policy, **student fundraising** shall include solicitation and collection of money by students in exchange for goods or services.

### **Authority**

The Board prohibits the collection of money by a student for personal benefit in school buildings, on school property or at any school-sponsored activity.

District students are not obligated to conduct door-to-door sales for fundraising activities.

### **Delegation of Responsibility**

Collection of money by approved school organizations may be permitted by the Superintendent.[1]

Collections by students on behalf of school organizations outside the schools may be permitted only by the Board.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop **administrative** regulations to implement this policy.

The building principal shall distribute this policy and relevant procedures to each student organization granted permission to solicit funds.

Funds solicited shall be controlled by Policy 618.[2]

Last Modified by Elizabeth Flood on April 15, 2015

Book	Policy Manual
Section	200 Pupils
Title	Public Performances by Students
Number	230
Status	From PSBA
Legal	<u>1. 24 P.S. 511</u> Pol. 204

### **Purpose**

The Board recognizes the value of students sharing their talents and skills with the community through student participation and performances in public events.

### **Authority**

The Board endorses public performances by students when they constitute a learning experience that contributes to the educational program; they do not interfere with other scheduled activities; and the circumstances of the event do not pose a threat to the health, safety or well-being of the students who are involved. **[1]**

### **Delegation of Responsibility**

All requests for public performances by student groups require the approval of the Superintendent, **who shall report such requests to the Board.**

The Superintendent or designee shall develop **administrative regulations** to implement this policy.

Last Modified by Elizabeth Flood on April 15, 2015

