Richmond School District Policy Student Searches

The Board of Education considers the maintenance of order and safety within the school environment to be of utmost importance. The Board recognizes that to provide for order and safety, it may be necessary for designated school officials to conduct reasonable searches of students while on school premises, on school buses or while participating in school-sponsored activities.

Policy: #446

A student or his/her belongings may be searched if:

- 1. There are reasonable grounds to suspect the search will reveal evidence of violations of the law, Board policy or school rules; and
- 2. The manner in which the search is conducted is reasonably related to the objectives of the search and is not overly intrusive in light of the age and sex of the student and the nature of the infraction.

School officials, employees or agents shall not conduct a strip search of any student.

Anything found in the course of a search pursuant to this policy, which constitutes evidence of a violation of a particular law, Board policy or school rule or which endangers the safety or health of any person, shall be seized and utilized as evidence if appropriate. Seized items shall be returned to the owner if the owner may lawfully possess the items. Seized items that may not be lawfully possessed by the owner may be referred to appropriate law enforcement authorities.

Legal References:

Wisconsin Statutes

Section 118.32 [strip search by school employees]

Section 118.325 [locker searches]

<u>Section 948.50</u> [criminal penalties; strip search by school employees]

Section 995.55(3) [access to personal Internet accounts of students]

Federal Laws

<u>U.S. Constitution</u>, 4th Amendment [protection from unreasonable search and seizure]

Cross References: Student Handbook

Adoption Date: 6/10/2019