

**USE OF HAND-HELD METAL DETECTORS ON SCHOOL DISTRICT PROPERTY**

UNAUTHORIZED WEAPONS AND OTHER DANGEROUS OBJECTS HAVE AN ADVERSE AND DISRUPTIVE EFFECT UPON THE EDUCATIONAL PROCESS AND HAVE NO PLACE WITHIN THE EDUCATIONAL AND WORK ENVIRONMENTS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT. AS PART OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S OVERALL PLAN TO ENHANCE THE LEVEL OF PROTECTION OF THE HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE OF STUDENTS, EMPLOYEES AND VISITORS, AS WELL AS TO SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT OF THE CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT, METAL DETECTORS MAY BE USED TO SCREEN PERSONS FOR FIREARMS AND OTHER DANGEROUS OBJECTS WHICH ARE PROHIBITED ON SCHOOL DISTRICT PROPERTY BY APPLICABLE LAW AND SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES. THIS POLICY SHALL APPLY TO ALL STUDENTS, EMPLOYEES, VISITORS, AND CONTRACTORS WHO DESIRE TO ENTER SCHOOL BOARD PROPERTY, AND TRESPASSERS WHO ARE PRESENT ON SCHOOL DISTRICT PROPERTY. THE TERM "SCHOOL BOARD PROPERTY" SHALL INCLUDE ANY PROPERTY OWNED OR LEASED BY THE SCHOOL BOARD OR LICENSED FOR USE BY THE SCHOOL BOARD.

NOTHING IN THE RULES SET FORTH BELOW SHALL BE CONSTRUED TO LIMIT THE AUTHORITY OF SCHOOL DISTRICT ADMINISTRATORS TO SEARCH ANY PERSON WHEN THERE IS A REASONABLE SUSPICION TO BELIEVE THAT SUCH PERSON IS IN POSSESSION OF A FIREARM OR OTHER DANGEROUS OR PROHIBITED OBJECT(S).

RULES:

- A. Notices will be posted in several prominent locations at each school district facility informing students, employees, visitors, contractors, and trespassers that they are subject to scanning by metal detectors for weapons and other dangerous objects prohibited by applicable law or School Board policy. The notice will include a statement that this type of screening may or may not be utilized at the discretion of the District and that no promise of safety is made.
- B. All persons selected for a random search shall be required to bring all their personal effects in their possession at the time they were selected (i.e., coat, purse, book bag or other similar articles) to the location where the screening will be performed. Alternatively, District personnel may opt to scan personal effects in the classroom after moving students outside the classroom or with students present.
- C. A student or person to be searched shall be directed to remove all metal objects (including coins, etc.) from his/her pockets or belongings. The student or person shall give their personal belongings, as described above, to a search team

member. These articles shall then be visually screened as required. The student or person shall then be scanned by a handheld metal detector. If the metal detector activates, the student or person will be subject to additional screening and/or further search by District personnel.

- D. Any person found to be in possession of a firearm or other dangerous weapon precluded on school district property by the applicable law shall be subject to arrest and/or disciplinary action pursuant to applicable law and Student Code of Conduct.
- E. Students and employees who refuse to submit to a search consistent with these guidelines will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action by school administration. Other persons (visitors and contractors) who refuse to submit to a search consistent with this policy will be refused entry and escorted off campus.
- F. When a scanned student or employee is found to be in possession of articles prohibited by applicable law or School Board policy, the designated school district employee (or contracted personnel) conducting the scan will promptly notify the site administrator of the scan results to ensure appropriate disciplinary action is taken, as well as appropriate additional action(s) such as completing a Behavior Threat Assessment (BTA).
- G. Where a scanned person is found to be in possession of articles prohibited by law, the designated school district employee (or contracted personnel) will inform local law enforcement. In the event the search was conducted by a law enforcement officer, the officer may take enforcement action as authorized under Florida law in compliance with school district policies and the Student Code of Conduct.

Policy Custodian: Division of Safety, Security, & Emergency Preparedness

Authority: §1001.41(2); F.S. §1001.32(2); F.S.

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[Case Law (if applicable)]

History: 01/05/22

Policies / Procedures

8/31/94

10/20/94

10/28/94

11/10/94

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