

Search and Seizure Process/Metal Detectors

Consistent with the provisions in policy 09.436, school administrators may authorize the use of metal detectors for weapons searches as follows:

- Search all students entering the premises;
- Search students on a random basis, provided a non-discriminatory, random selection process is used; or
- Search an individual student when there is reasonable suspicion to believe the student is concealing a weapon.

School administrators shall use the following procedures when conducting metal detector searches of students in school or on school property:

- School administrators shall be trained in the use of the metal detector equipment to be used.;
- Searches shall be reasonable in scope and duration, shall not be excessively intrusive, and shall be conducted in a uniform manner;
- Prior to the beginning of the search, students will be asked to remove all metal objects from their pockets;
- If a metal detector is activated during the initial search of a student, the search may be repeated;
- If the student continues to activate the device, a pat-down search may be conducted;
- Any search of a student's person as the result of the activation of the detector will be conducted in private by a person of the same sex as the student and will be limited to a search for weapons;
- A witness, preferably of the same sex as the students, shall be present when a personal search is conducted.;
- All searches shall terminate after the item that activated the device has been located; and
- Students and parents shall be notified that metal detectors may be used in schools and on school property, the reason for their use, and the circumstances under which they will be used.

