

SCHOOL SEARCHES

Section I: DESKS AND LOCKERS

Desks and lockers are school property and always remain under the control of the school. However, scholars are responsible for whatever is contained in desks and lockers issued to them by the school. School authorities may conduct periodic general inspections at any time for any reason related to school administration. Inspection of individual lockers or desks may occur when there is a reasonable basis to do so and, in those cases, the student or a third party shall be present.

Section II: AUTOMOBILES

The school retains authority to inspect scholar automobiles used as transportation on school property. When a school official, other than a sworn law enforcement officer, has reasonable suspicion to believe that illegal or unauthorized materials are contained inside a scholar vehicle, the scholar may be required to open the automobile, including the trunk, for further inspection.

Section III: SEARCH OF STUDENTS

A scholar's person and/or personal effects may be searched whenever a school authority, other than a sworn law enforcement officer, has reasonable suspicion to believe that the student is in possession of illegal or unauthorized materials.

If a pat down search of a scholar's person is conducted, it will be conducted in private by a school official of the same sex with an adult witness present. It will be an extremely rare situation that requires a more intrusive search of a scholar's person than a pat-down. Only if extreme emergency conditions exist, and only upon prior approval by the General Counsel, shall a more intrusive search be conducted by a school official, other than a sworn law enforcement officer. If such a search is necessary, it will be conducted in private by a school official of the same sex with an adult witness of the same sex present.

Section IV: ENTRY TO SCHOOL & DISTRICT FACILITIES

A scholar's person and/or personal effects may be searched upon entry into a school building or other District facility (Central Office locations, district athletic events, etc.). Secondary schools within the district will maintain metal detectors at the designated points of entry for students. If the metal detector or magnetic wand signals the potential possession of weapons or other contraband, school personnel will conduct a secondary screening.

NOTICE OF POLICY

Scholars will be provided notice of the School Search Policy by having the policy placed in the student handbook and distributed to all scholars.

SOURCE: Jackson Public School District, Jackson, Mississippi
DATE: November 27, 1978
REVIEWED: April 12, 2022
AMENDED: January 19, 1987
August 4, 2016
May 3, 2022