

## **JIHA—Locker Searches**

### **Lockers are School Property**

All lockers assigned to pupils are the property of the School. At no time does the School relinquish its exclusive control of its lockers. The Administrator, designee, shall have custody of all combinations to all lockers or locks. Pupils are prohibited from placing locks on any locker without the advance approval of the Administrator or his/her designee.

### **Legitimate Use of School Lockers**

The School assigns lockers to its pupils for the pupils' convenience and temporary use. Pupils are to use lockers exclusively to store School-related materials and authorized personal items such as outer garments, footwear, grooming aids, or lunch. Pupils shall not use the lockers for any other purpose, unless specifically authorized by School policy or the Administrator, or designee, in advance of pupils bringing the items to School.

Pupils are solely responsible for the contents of their lockers and should not share their lockers with other pupils, nor divulge locker combinations to other pupils.

### **Search of Locker Contents**

Random searches of School lockers and their contents have a positive impact on deterring violations of School rules and regulations, ensure proper maintenance of School property, and provide greater safety and security for pupils and personnel. Accordingly, the board authorizes the Administrator, or designee, to search lockers and locker contents at any time, without notice, and without parental/guardianship or pupil consent.

The Administrator, or designee, shall not be obligated, but may request the assistance of a law enforcement officer in conducting a locker search. The Administrator, or his/her designee shall supervise the search. In the course of a locker search, the Administrator, or designee, shall respect the privacy rights of the pupil regarding any items discovered that are not illegal or against School policy and rules.

### **Seizure**

When conducting locker searches, the Administrator, or designee, may seize any illegal or unauthorized items, items in violation of board policy or rules, or any other items reasonably determined by the Administrator, or designee, to be a potential threat to the overall welfare, safety, or security of others. Such items may include, but are not limited to the following: firearms, explosives, dangerous weapons, flammable material, illegal controlled substances or controlled substance analogues or other intoxicants, contraband, poisons, and stolen property. Law enforcement officials shall be notified immediately upon seizure of such dangerous items or seizure of items that the School may be required by statute or administrative rule to report to law enforcement agencies.

Any items seized by the Administrator, or designee, shall be removed from the locker and held for evidence in disciplinary proceedings and/or turned over to law enforcement

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Adopted: 16 January 2013      Revised: \_\_\_\_\_

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officials. The parent or guardian shall be notified by the Administrator, or designee, of items removed from the locker.

### **Notice of Policy**

A copy of this policy shall be provided annually to each pupil and parent/guardian of the pupil assigned a School locker.

*References      New Jersey v. T.L.O., 469 U.S. 325 (1985)*  
*U.S. Constitution, Amendment IV*