

# Palmyra Area School District

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: LOCKER and STUDENT  
SEARCHES

ADOPTED: November 9, 1995

REVISED: June 12, 2008

226. LOCKER and STUDENT SEARCHES	
1. Purpose	<p>The Board acknowledges the need for safe in-school storage of books, clothing, school materials and other personal property and may provide lockers and cabinets for such storage.</p>
2. Authority	<p>All lockers are and shall remain the property of the school district. Students are encouraged to keep their assigned lockers or cabinets closed and locked against incursion by other students, but no student may use a locker as a depository for a substance or object which is prohibited by law or district regulations, or which constitutes a threat to health, safety or welfare of the occupants of the school building or the building itself.</p>
Title 22 Sec. 12.14	<p>The Board reserves the right to authorize its employees to inspect a student's locker, <u>desk, or other personal possessions</u> when such employee has reason to believe that the locker, <u>desk, or personal possessions</u> is improperly used for the storage of contraband, a substance or object the possession of which is illegal, or any material which poses a hazard to the safety and good order of the schools.</p> <p>Prior to a locker search, the student shall be notified and given an opportunity to be present.</p>
3. Delegation of Responsibility	<p>The Superintendent shall develop procedures to implement this policy which shall require</p> <p>All requests or suggestions for the search of a student's locker shall be directed to the school building principal.</p> <p>The principal or representative shall be present whenever a student locker is inspected.</p> <p>The principal shall open a student's locker for inspection on the request of a law enforcement officer only on presentation of a duly authorized search warrant or on the intelligently and voluntarily given consent of the student.</p> <p><u>If a student is suspected of possession of illegal materials on his/her person</u></p>

	<p><u>or among personal possessions, the student shall be referred to the principal or assistant principal. If the administrator has reasonable suspicion(s), she/he will confront the student privately and ask the student to consent to a search.</u></p> <p><u>If the student refuses, the parents should be called immediately. A search without consent must be reasonable related to the seriousness and/or nature of the alleged infraction and not excessively intrusive in light of the age and gender of the student.</u></p> <p>The principal shall be responsible for the safekeeping and proper disposal of any substance, object or material found to be improperly stored in a student's locker <u>or in his or her possession.</u></p> <p>The principal shall be responsible for the prompt recording in writing of each locker, <u>desk, or personal possession</u> inspection which record shall include the reason(s) for the search, persons present, objects found and their disposition.</p> <p>Whenever the search of a student's locker is prompted by the reasonable suspicion that the contents of a student's locker create an emergency, the principal may open the locker as soon as it is necessary to do so to discharge properly his/her duty to protect the persons and property in the school.</p>
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