



**POLICY 226 -- LOCKER SEARCH**

**1. Purpose**

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.

**2. Authority**

All lockers are and will 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.

The Board reserves the right to authorize its employees to inspect a student's locker when such employee has reason to believe that the locker 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.

Prior to a locker search, the student will be notified and given an opportunity to be present.

**3. Delegation of Responsibility**

The Superintendent will develop procedures to implement this policy which will require:

- > all requests or suggestions for the search of a student's locker to be directed to the school building principal who will seek the free consent of the student to the locker inspection.
- > the principal or representative to be present whenever a student locker is inspected.
- > the principal to 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.
- > the principal to be responsible for the safekeeping and proper disposal of any substance, object, or material found to be improperly stored in a student's locker.
- > The principal to be responsible for the prompt recording in writing of each locker inspection which record will include the reason(s) for the search, persons present, objects found and their disposition.

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.