

MIDDLETOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: SEARCH AND SEIZURE

ADOPTED: September 16, 1996

REVISED:

	<p style="text-align: center;">226.1 SEARCH AND SEIZURE</p> <p>1. Purpose The Board acknowledges the need to maintain order and discipline in the schools and to protect the safety and welfare of the students and school personnel. School authorities may perform a personal search or a search of a student's automobile under the circumstances outlined below and may seize illegal, unauthorized or contraband materials discovered in the search.</p> <p>2. Guidelines A student's failure to permit searches as provided in this policy will be considered grounds for disciplinary actions.</p> <p><u>Automobiles</u></p> <p>Automobiles parked on school property may be searched with the knowledge and permission and in the presence of the student driver or owner.</p> <p>In the event that reasonable cause indicates the presence of illegal articles which are deemed to constitute a threat to the health, welfare or safety of students or staff, police shall be notified immediately.</p> <p><u>Personal Search</u></p> <p>The principal may conduct a search of a student and/or a student's possessions, whenever the school official has reasonable cause to believe the student is in possession of an illegal or controlled substance, other object(s) detrimental to the health, safety or welfare of other students or other school personnel, or unauthorized contraband materials.</p> <p>An authorized search must be conducted in the presence of two school officials, one being of the same sex as the student and shall be reasonable in scope and limited to ordering the student to empty pockets, purses or other personal articles. In no event shall a school official ask a student to disrobe or conduct a body search of a student.</p> <p>The principal shall contact the parents of a student who is searched to explain the reasons for the search.</p>
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	<p>A search of a person or possessions may be conducted by the police under the following conditions. A clear and immediate threat to health, welfare or safety of other students or school employees is believed to exist. A student is uncooperative and refuses to be searched by school officials. The parent(s) of a student will be contacted and will have the opportunity to be present.</p>
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