

# POLICY

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Students

## **SUBJECT: SEARCHES AND INTERROGATIONS**

Students are protected by the Constitution from unreasonable searches and seizures. A student may be searched and contraband seized on school grounds or in a school building by a School District employee only when the School District employee has reasonable suspicion to believe the student is engaging in proscribed activity which is in violation of school rules and/or illegal.

Factors to be considered in determining whether reasonable suspicion exists to search a student include:

- a) The age of the student;
- b) The student's record and past history;
- c) The predominance and seriousness of the problem in the school where the search is directed;  
and
- d) The urgency to conduct the search without delay.

If reasonable suspicion exists to believe that a student possesses a weapon, it is permissible for a School District employee to frisk that student.

### **Lockers**

Lockers are provided by the school for student use and the administration has the right to search lockers. A student may have exclusive use of a locker as far as other students are concerned but he/she does not have such exclusivity over the locker as against the school authorities. Any student-caused loss or damage to lockers will result in an appropriate fine.

### **Law Enforcement Officials**

It shall be the policy of the South Huntington Union Free School District that a cooperative effort shall be maintained between the school administration and law enforcement agencies. Law enforcement officials may be summoned in order to conduct an investigation of alleged criminal conduct on school premises, or during a school-sponsored activity, or to maintain the educational environment. They may also be summoned for the purpose of maintaining or restoring order when the presence of such officers is necessary to prevent injury to persons or property.

Administrators have the responsibility and the authority to determine when the assistance of law enforcement officers is necessary within their respective jurisdictions. The School District's administrators shall at all times act in a manner that protects and guarantees the rights of students and parents.

(Continued)

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Students

**SUBJECT: SEARCHES AND INTERROGATIONS (Cont'd.)**

## **Interrogations**

It shall be the policy of this School District that police authorities must have a warrant to interrogate students in school buildings or on school grounds, except in cases involving suspected child abuse. If the police wish to speak to a student without a warrant, they should take the matter up directly with the student's parent/guardians.

Family Court Act Section 1024

Adopted: 6/16/99