

## ORANGE-WINDSOR SUPERVISORY UNION

### Royalton School District

## SCHOOL SEARCH AND SEIZURE POLICY

To maintain order and discipline in the school and to protect the safety and welfare of students and school personnel, school authorities may search a student, student use areas, student lockers or student automobiles under the circumstances outlined below and may seize any illegal, unauthorized, or contraband materials discovered in the search.

A student's failure to permit searches and seizures as provided in this policy will be considered grounds for disciplinary action.

### I. PERSONAL SEARCHES

A student's person and/or personal effects (e.g., purse, book bag, etc.) may be searched whenever a school authority has reasonable suspicion to believe that the student is in possession of illegal or unauthorized materials.

If a pat down search of a student's person is conducted it will be conducted in private by a school official of the same sex and with an adult witness present, when feasible.

If extreme emergency conditions require a more intrusive search of a student's person, such a search may only be conducted in private by a school official of the same sex, with an adult witness of the same sex present, and only upon the prior approval of the Principal, Assistant principal or Superintendent of Schools, unless the health or safety of students will be endangered by the delay which might be caused by following these procedures.

### II. STUDENT USE AREAS

Instructional rooms and areas of student use are school property and remain at all times under the control of the school; however, students are expected to assume full responsibility for the security and condition of their own work areas. Periodic general inspections of rooms and other areas of the school may be conducted by school authorities for any reason at any time without notice, without student consent, and without a search warrant.

### III. LOCKER SEARCHES

Student lockers are school property and remain at all times under the control of the school; however, students are expected to assume full responsibility for the security of their lockers. Periodic general inspections of lockers may be conducted by school authorities for any reason at any time without notice, without student consent, and without a search warrant.

#### IV. AUTOMOBILE SEARCHES

Students are permitted to park on school premises as a matter of privilege, not of right. The school retains authority to conduct routine patrols of student parking lots and inspections of the exteriors of student automobiles on school property. The interiors of student vehicles may be inspected whenever a school authority has reasonable suspicion to believe that illegal or unauthorized materials are contained inside. Such patrols and inspections may be conducted without notice, without student consent, and without a search warrant.

#### V. SEIZURE OF ILLEGAL MATERIALS

If a properly conducted search yields illegal or contraband materials, such findings shall be turned over to proper legal authorities for ultimate disposition.

Date Warned: May 26, 2000

Date Reviewed: May 2, 2000, April 4, 2000

Date Adopted: June 6, 2000

Cross Reference: