

SEARCH AND SEIZURE

The Board of Education is fully committed to promoting a safe learning environment and, to the extent possible, eliminating the possession and use of weapons, illegal drugs, and other controlled substances by students on school premises and at school activities. As necessary to protect the health and welfare of students and staff, school officials may search students, their property, and/or district property under their control and may seize illegal, unsafe, or otherwise prohibited items.

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)
(cf. 3515 - Campus Security)
(cf. 3515.3 - District Police/Security Department)
(cf. 5131 - Conduct)
(cf. 5131.7 - Weapons and Dangerous Instruments)
(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

The Board urges that employees exercise discretion and good judgment. When conducting a search or seizure, employees shall act in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulation.

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)
(cf. 1312.1 - Complaints Concerning District Employees)
(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

32280-32289 School safety plans
35160 Authority of governing boards
35160.1 Broad authority of school districts
48900-48927 Suspension and expulsion
49050-49051 Searches by school employees
49330-49334 Injurious objects

PENAL CODE

626.9 Firearms
626.10 Dirks, daggers, knives or razor

CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION

Article I, Section 28(c) Right to Safe Schools

COURT DECISIONS

Redding v. Safford Unified School District, 557 U.S. 364 (2009)
B.C. v. Plumas, (9th Cir. 1999) 192 F.3d 1260
Jennings v. Joshua Independent School District, (5th Cir. 1989) 877 F.2d 313
O'Connor v. Ortega, (1987) 480 U.S. 709
New Jersey v. T.L.O., (1985) 469 U.S. 325
Horton v. Goose Creek Independent School District, (5th Cir. 1982) 690 F.2d 470
Zamora v. Pomeroy, (10th Cir. 1981) 639 F.2d 662
ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS
83 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 257 (2001)
75 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 155 (1992)

SEARCH AND SEIZURE (continued)

Management Resources:

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE PUBLICATIONS

The Appropriate and Effective Use of Security Technologies in U.S. Schools: A Guide for Schools and Law Enforcement Agencies, 1999

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Attorney General's Office: <http://caag.state.ca.us>

California Department of Education, Safe Schools: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/lss>

National Institute of Justice: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij>