

## Regional School Unit 24



**JIH**

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### **DRAFT**      **QUESTIONING AND SEARCHES OF STUDENTS**

The Regional School Unit No. 24 (RSU) Board (RSUB) seeks to maintain a safe and orderly environment in the schools. School administrators may question and/or search students in accordance with this policy and accompanying administrative procedure. For the purposes of this policy and JIH-R, the school administrator may designate staff to assist in conducting searches of students and/or their personal property.

Students, their personal property, and their vehicles may be searched upon reasonable suspicion that they possess any items or substances which are prohibited by law, RSUB policies and/or school rules, or which interfere with the operations, discipline or general welfare of the school.

When special circumstances exist, including but not limited to a suspected ongoing violation of the RSUB's drug/alcohol or weapons policies, or when a potential threat to safety is identified, school administrators may search groups of students or the entire student body without individualized suspicion.

Student use of all school storage facilities, including but not limited to lockers, desks, and parking lots, is a privilege granted by the school. All storage facilities are school property and remain under the control, custody, and supervision of the school. Only locks provided by the RSU may be used to secure student lockers.

Students have no expectation of privacy in school storage facilities or for any items placed in such storage facilities. School administrators have the authority to inspect and search storage facilities and their contents on a random basis, with or without reasonable suspicion, and without notice or consent. Locking devices provided by the student may be removed at the BA's discretion. Canine patrols may be used along with a general search by personnel.

If a search produces evidence that a student has violated or is violating the law, RSUB policies and/or school rules, such evidence may be seized and impounded by school administrators and appropriate disciplinary action may be taken. Evidence may be forwarded to law enforcement authorities as required by law or as deemed appropriate by school administrators.

The Superintendent is authorized to develop and implement, with input from legal counsel, administrators, and/or other appropriate persons, any administrative procedure necessary to carry out this policy.

This policy and the accompanying procedure will be included in student/parent handbooks. Such administrative procedures shall be subject to RSUB approval.

Cross Reference:      JICH – Substance Use/Abuse by Students  
                              JICIA – Weapons, Violence and School Safety  
                              JK – Student Discipline (MSMA)  
                              KLG – Relations with Law Enforcement Authorities (MSMA)

Emergency Adoption: