

VENTURA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

BOARD POLICY NO. 5145.12

ADOPTED: 08/22/2022

CLASSIFICATION: Instruction

SUBJECT: Search and Seizure

The County Board of Education and County Superintendent are 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 on school premises and at school activities.

As necessary to protect the health and welfare of students and staff, and as authorized by law, policy, or regulation, a search of students, student property, and/or VCOE property within the exclusive control of a student may be conducted and any discovered illegal, unsafe, or otherwise prohibited items may be seized.

Any student, their property, or VCOE property under their control, may be searched only when there is a reasonable, individualized suspicion that the search will uncover evidence the student is involved in violating law, VCOE policy or regulation, or other rules of the school. Student property that may be searched include, but are not limited to, desks, purses, backpacks, and vehicles parked on VCOE property. Reasonable suspicion shall be based on specific and objective facts that the search will produce evidence related to the alleged violation.

A student's personal electronic device may be searched in an emergency involving danger of death or serious physical injury to the student or others, as authorized under Penal Code 1546.1.

Upon a formal finding of need for the use of any search to ensure safety and security on campus or at school activities, students may also be subject to other random or regular searches or inspections on an announced basis, in accordance with law. This policy and/or related procedures on the use of any such search shall be communicated to students and/or their parents/guardians, at the beginning of each school year.

Legal References:

STATE

CA Constitution Article I, Section 28(c)
Ed. Code 32280-32289
Ed. Code 35160
Ed. Code 35160.1

DESCRIPTION

Right to Safe Schools
School safety plans
Authority of governing boards
Broad authority of school districts

Ed. Code 48900-48927
Ed. Code 49050-49051
Ed. Code 49330-49334
Pen. Code 626.10
Pen. Code 626.9

Suspension and expulsion
Searches by school employees
Injurious objects
Dirks, daggers, knives or razor
Firearms