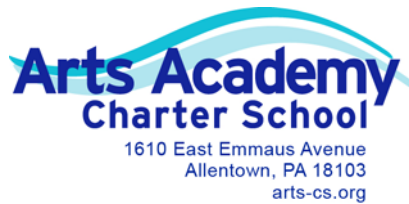


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## Board Policy 2.3.7

### Search/Seizure

The Board acknowledges the need for safe storage of books, clothing, school materials and personal property and provides lockers for storage purposes.

Therefore, to provide a safe learning environment, the Board recognizes the necessity for searches of students, student's personal belongings, lockers and vehicles in accordance with this policy.

It shall be the policy of the Board that all lockers are and shall remain the property of Arts Academy Charter School. As such, students shall have no expectation of privacy in their lockers.

No student may use a locker as a depository for a substance or object that is prohibited by law, Board policy or School rules, or constitutes a threat to the health, safety or welfare of the occupants of the School building or the building itself. Such materials may be used as evidence against the student in disciplinary proceedings.

The Executive Director or designee reserves the right to authorize its employees to conduct searches of students and their belongings at any time, based on reasonable suspicion, for the purpose of determining whether the locker is being used improperly for the storage of contraband a substance of contraband, a substance or object the possession of which is illegal, or any material that poses a threat to the health, welfare or safety of the School population.

Reasonable suspicion occurs when a reasonable person, from a combination of articulable facts and the person's own experience, feels that the degree of intrusion is warranted in terms of all the surrounding circumstances.

The Board authorizes the administration to conduct random general searches of lockers and abandoned property because the School has a compelling interest protecting and preserving the health, safety or welfare of the School population.

Whenever an administrator or designee suspects that a search, prompted by reasonable suspicion, is or will become dangerous to the health, safety or welfare of the School community; expects to find large quantities of substances; expects to find gun(s), explosives or other dangerous objects; or the student is expected to physically resist such a search, the police shall be called.

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Students, parents/guardians and staff shall be notified at least annually, or more often if deemed appropriate by administration, concerning the contents of this policy and School procedures.

The Executive Director or designee shall develop procedures to implement this policy.

The Principal or designee shall be present whenever a student locker is inspected based on reasonable suspicion.

The Principal or designee shall open a student's locker for inspection on the request of a law enforcement officer only on presentation of a duly authorized search warrant or on the intelligent and voluntary consent of the student.

The Principal or designee shall be responsible for promptly recording in writing each locker inspection: such record shall include the reason(s) for the search, persons present, objects found and their disposition.

The Principal or designee shall be responsible for the safekeeping and proper disposal of any substance, object or material found in a student's locker in violation of Board policy or School rules. Any illegal substance, object or material found in a student's locker shall be turned over to the police.

School officials are authorized to search a student's personal possessions or motor vehicle parked on School property when there is reasonable suspicion that the student is violating the law, Board policy or School rules, or poses a threat to the health, safety or welfare of the School population.

Illegal and prohibited materials seized during a student search may be used as evidence against the student in a school disciplinary proceeding.

### **Locker Searches**

Students are responsible for maintaining the security of their lockers.

A student may only use the locker that is assigned to him/her. The locker may not be shared with any other student. Students who are assigned lockers shall be notified that lockers are the property of the School and shall be subject to searches.

Students are encouraged to keep their assigned lockers closed and locked against incursion by other students. No student may use a locker as a depository for a substance or object which is prohibited by law or district regulations, or which constitutes a threat to health, welfare or safety of the occupants of the School building or the building itself.

Prior to an individual locker search, the student shall be notified and be given an opportunity to be present. However, when School authorities have a reasonable suspicion that a locker contains

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materials which pose a threat to the health, welfare or safety of the School population, student lockers may be searched without prior warning.

### **Use of Trained Detection Animals**

With prior approval of the Executive Director, and without prior notice, the School reserves the right to use specially trained drug or bomb detection animals. Such approval shall be based upon the reasonable belief that there are illegal activities such as drug use occurring in the School that affect the entire School population.

### **Searches of Vehicles**

The School reserves the right to search vehicles which are on School property, or are owned by or in the possession of students, to discover or confiscate any prohibited materials, subject to there being reasonable suspicion that a substance or object which is illegal or a threat to the health, welfare or safety of the School community is present.

### **Searches of Students and Personal Belongings**

The School reserves the right to search a student or any possession, including but not limited to purses, backpacks, gym bags, jackets, coats, parcels, packages or other containers, to discover or confiscate any prohibited materials subject to there being reasonable suspicion that a substance or object which is illegal or a threat to the health, welfare or safety of the School community is present. Kubatons (wands) and metal detectors may be used to assist with the search. Strip searches are prohibited.

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