





Search and Seizure

- Principals should defer to police during active investigations.
- Principals should not defer to police in cases where a search is within the scope of their authority, unless:
 - Items being searched for require specific police handling expertise.
 - Problems are anticipated in carrying out a search and police assistance is needed.
- At the beginning of the school year, the principal must inform students that desks and lockers are school property and that a search is permissible.
- The principal can search a student's possessions, desk, locker, or any area where a student's possessions may be stored.
- Except in the case of a criminal investigation, searches should be conducted by two school staff with the student present.
- The principal shall not conduct body searches.
- The principal can ask the student to empty pockets and remove outer layers of clothing (hats, coats, outer shirts) and remove shoes. A search should never cause a student to reveal undergarments.
- As soon as the search reveals evidence of a criminal offence, the search should be stopped and police contacted.
- Police may communicate with the principal prior to executing a search warrant on school property depending on the circumstances.

Possession and or Distribution of Illegal Drugs

- Police shall be contacted when drugs are located.
- Use personal protection equipment and take safety precautions to ensure the safety of staff and students.

Possession and or Distribution/ Publication of Intimate Images

If aware of a student possessing or distributing non-consensual intimate images, the school principal will:

- Contact police.
- If possible, confiscate the device containing the images and secure it in a safe place.
- Under the direction of the police, contact the student's parent/guardian(s) to inform them of police involvement.
- If you cannot confiscate the device, take a photo of the image. Do not electronically share any image collected.