



TO: School Board Members

FROM: Peter Olson-Skog, Superintendent

DATE: September 8, 2025

SUBJECT: Second Reading of Policy 527 - Student Use and Parking of Motor Vehicles;
Patrols, Inspections, and Searches

BACKGROUND:

This is a new policy for School District 197 and aligns with MSBA's Model Policy. The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the use and parking of motor vehicles by students in school district locations, and provide clear guidelines for patrols, inspections, and searches.

The position of the school district is that a fair and equitable district-wide student motor vehicle policy will contribute to the quality of the students' educational experience, will maintain order and discipline in the schools, and will protect the health, safety, and welfare of students and school personnel. This policy applies to all students in the school district.

Beyond the portions of the MSBA model policy that require language specific to the district, the only difference from the model policy is that the board is granting the superintendent and/or their designee(s) the authority to develop procedures to support the implementation of this policy. This allows changes to be made without waiting for a three-reading policy amendment, as the administration monitors the implementation of this new policy. It should also be noted that it is a typical procedure for the administration to be charged with implementing the policies adopted by the board and to develop procedures to support said implementation.

While the administration is seeking authority to develop associated procedures for this policy without returning to the board for approval of said procedures, the administration would like to communicate its intent to implement procedures (specific to the parking portion of Policy 527) within the following general guidelines:

1. Clear signage will be posted to warn of the potential consequences of parking in undesignated/unauthorized areas (i.e. towed at owner's expense).
2. Families and students will receive clear communication on the expectations and consequences for not following the expectations, and the procedure will not be implemented until communication has been distributed.
3. Anyone parked inappropriately will receive a warning via a note left on their windshield.*
4. If the same license plate is identified as having parked in an authorized parking area after having received a warning, it may be towed.

*There are situations where a vehicle may be immediately towed without a warning. Examples include parking on a sidewalk, parking in a manner that impedes emergency responder access, etc.

RESOLUTION:

This is a second reading. No action is needed at this time.