

Policy EDDAC: Video Surveillance

Status: DRAFT

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Videos

The Board of Education recognizes the district's continuing responsibility to maintain and improve discipline and to insure the health, welfare and safety of its staff and students while at school, at school events, on school property, and on school transportation vehicles.

Having carefully weighed and balanced these responsibilities with the privacy rights of students, the Board supports the use of video camera in various school settings, on school property, and on its transportation vehicles as a means to promote the order, safety, and security of students and staff.

Video cameras may be used in school, at school events, on school property, and on school buses to monitor student behavior while traveling to and from school and school activities. The Board believes that such monitoring will deter misconduct and help to ensure the safety of students, staff, and property. Students found to be in violation of the district's conduct rules shall be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with district policy and regulations.

Bus transportation is a privilege extended only to students who display good conduct while preparing to ride, riding, or leaving the bus. Continued disorderly conduct or persistent refusal to submit to the authority of the driver shall be sufficient reason for a student to be denied transportation. (MS State Code 37-7-301, e)

Riders who fail to comply with the above rules shall be reported to the school principal, who shall determine the severity of the misconduct and take appropriate action as described in the student handbook. In the case of a severe violation or repeated offenses, the rider may be denied transportation for a period of time determined by the principal, up to the remainder of the school year and parents will be notified.

Video may not be viewed by persons other than the Superintendent or designee and other relevant administrators:

1. ~~Bus drivers, behavior specialists or other relevant personnel, and school administrators may view videos in order to observe a specific problem and work toward its solution.~~ Only bus drivers, behavior specialists, school administrators, or other relevant personnel may view video recordings, and only for the purpose of addressing a specific problem and working toward its resolution.
 2. ~~All staff who view a video shall be identified in a written log.~~ Video recordings may only be released in response to an official request from the school's insurance provider or in compliance with a subpoena.
 3. Employees who review video footage, shall not copy, release, or disclose any information from videos.
 4. ~~Employees will sign a form stating the reason for reviewing the video and agree to not disclose or copy the images thereon without specific permission from the superintendent.~~ Video surveillance is intended solely for the safety and security of students and staff. It should not be used to unnecessarily monitor or observe individuals.
 5. ~~The district superintendent shall establish a process requiring administrators to randomly review school bus video footage in order to determine that order is being maintained on all busses in the Jackson County School District.~~
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