

## **Policy Committee Meeting**

Wednesday, February 5, 2025 6:00 PM

BOE Auditorium and via Zoom Meeting Platform, 129 Church Street, Bristol, CT 06010

1. **Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance**
2. **Public Comment**
3. **Policy Discussion and Possible Action Item:**
  1. **Cabe's Model Policy P5145.123(a) & Chief of Police Morello's edits**
  2. **Cabe Model Policy R5145.123(a) - suggested regulation**
4. **Adjournment**

*A separate policy on this issue.*

## Students

### Search and Seizure

### Use of Metal Detectors

#### Version #1

When the administration has reasonable cause to believe that weapons are in the possession of unidentified students, when there has been a pattern of weapons found at school or when violence involving weapons has occurred at the school or at school sponsored events, the administration shall be authorized to use stationary or mobile metal detectors in accordance with procedures approved by the Board. Any search of a student's person as a result of the activation of the detector shall be conducted in private in accordance with the policy on personal searches.

#### Version #2

~~In view of the escalating presence of weapons in our schools, the Board authorizes the use of hand-held or walk-through metal detectors to check a student's person or personal effects as follows:~~

~~School officials or law enforcement officers may conduct metal detector checks of groups of individuals if the checks are done in a minimally-intrusive, nondiscriminatory manner (e.g., on all students in a randomly selected class; on every third individual entering an athletic event). Metal detector checks of groups of individuals may not be used to single out a particular individual or category of individuals.~~

~~If a school official or a law enforcement officer has reasonable suspicion to believe that a particular student is in possession of an illegal or unauthorized metal-containing object or weapon, he or she may conduct a metal detector check of the student's person and personal effects.~~

~~A student's failure to permit a metal detector check as provided in this policy will be considered grounds for disciplinary action.~~

The Superintendent shall develop regulations for implementing this policy.

#### ***Language to include in either version:***

Upon enrollment and at the beginning of each school year, students and parents/guardians shall receive notice that the district uses metal detector checks as part of its program to promote safety and deter the presence of weapons. Signs shall be posted at all schools to explain that anyone may be scanned by metal detector for guns, knives or other illegal weapons when on campus or attending athletic or extracurricular events.

## **Students**

### **Search and Seizure**

#### **Use of Metal Detectors** (continued)

(cf. 5145.12 - Search and Seizure)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-221 Boards of education to prescribe rules.

*New Jersey v T.L.O.*, 53 U.S.L.W. 4083 (1985)

PA 94-115 An Act Concerning School Searches.

Policy adopted:

cps 7/00

*A suggested regulation on this topic. Due to the lack of court decision on this issue, it is recommended that the regulation be approved by the Board.*

## Students

### Search and Seizure

#### Use of Metal Detectors

The use of metal detectors in District schools are subject to the following procedures:

1. A notice will be posted in a central location at each (middle and high) school stating that weapons are not permitted at school and that students may be required to submit to a metal detector check. In addition, the metal detector policy will be included in future publications of the Student Code of Conduct and in Student/Parent Handbooks.
2. Before conducting the metal detector checks, the Building Principal or his/her designee or law enforcement officer ("officer") will enter the classroom and explain the scanning process to students in the class, emphasizing that the checks are intended to maintain safe schools.
3. Before walk-through, students shall be asked to empty their pockets of metal objects.
4. After an initial activation occurs, students shall be asked to walk through a second time.
5. If a second activation occurs, a hand-held metal detector will be used.
6. If the activation is not eliminated or explained, staff shall escort the student to a private area.
7. In the private area, an expanded search shall be conducted by a staff member of the same gender as the student, in the presence of an adult witness.

**Note:** Upon activation of the detector, any subsequent search should be limited to the detection of the metal that caused the activation in the first place. For example, a school official should not use the fact of the activation to search a container which could obviously not hold a weapon.

8. The search shall be limited to the detection of weapons.

## **Students**

### **Search and Seizure**

#### **Use of Metal Detectors (continued)**

##### **Metal Detector Checks of Individual Students**

Before conducting a metal detector check of an individual student, the administrator or officer must have individualized reasonable suspicion that the student is in possession of an illegal or unauthorized metal-containing object or weapon. The provisions of the Board Policy regarding personal searches shall be followed under these circumstances.

If a properly conducted search yields a weapon or any other illegal material, it shall be turned over to the proper legal authorities for ultimate disposition.

Regulation approved:

cps 7/00