

VENTURA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION NO. 5145.12

ADOPTED: 08/22/2022

CLASSIFICATION: Instruction

SUBJECT: Search and Seizure

USE OF METAL DETECTORS

The County Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the following safeguards are used when making metal detector scans:

1. Upon entering the school building, students shall be asked to empty their pockets and/or turn in any belongings.
2. A metal detector shall be used to scan students. If an initial metal detector activation occurs, students shall be asked to remove other objects that they may be wearing (e.g., belt and jewelry) and will be scanned a second time.
3. If the activation is not eliminated or explained, staff shall escort the student to a private area where an expanded search shall be conducted by a staff member of the same gender as the student in the presence of another VCOE employee.
4. The search shall be limited to the detection of the cause of the activation.

USE OF CONTRABAND DETECTION DOGS

Contraband detection dogs shall not be used in classrooms or other VCOE facilities when the rooms are occupied, except for demonstration purposes with the handler present. When used for demonstration purposes, the dog shall be separated from the students and not allowed to sniff any individual.

Prior to conducting an inspection, students shall be asked to leave the room that will be subject to the canine sniff. No student shall be forced to leave personal items behind for inspection unless school officials have reasonable suspicion to search the item.

Only the dog's official handler shall determine what constitutes an alert by the dog. If the dog alerts on a particular item or place, the student having the use of that item or place, or responsibility for it, shall be called to witness the inspection. If a dog alerts on a locked vehicle, the student who brought the vehicle onto VCOE property shall be asked to unlock it for inspection.

NOTIFICATIONS

At the beginning of each school year and upon enrollment, the County Superintendent or designee shall inform students and parents/guardians about the VCOE's policies and procedures for searches, including notice regarding:

1. The possibility of random searches of students, their belongings, their vehicles parked on VCOE property, and other VCOE property under a student's control, including desks
2. The VCOE's contraband dog detection program
3. The use of metal detector scans

In addition, the County Superintendent or designee shall ensure that signs are posted at all schools at which metal detectors are to be used to explain that anyone may be scanned by metal detector for guns, knives, or other illegal weapons when on campus or attending extracurricular events.

Legal References:

STATE

CA Constitution Article I, Section 28(c)
Ed. Code 32280-32289
Ed. Code 35160
Ed. Code 35160.1
Ed. Code 48900-48927
Ed. Code 49050-49051
Ed. Code 49330-49334
Pen. Code 626.10
Pen. Code 626.9

DESCRIPTION

Right to Safe Schools
School safety plans
Authority of governing boards
Broad authority of school districts
Suspension and expulsion
Searches by school employees
Injurious objects
Dirks, daggers, knives or razor
Firearms