

# Ontario School District 8

Code: **JFG**  
Adopted: 06/15/95  
Readopted: 8/18/10  
Orig. Code(s): JFG

## **Student Searches and Questioning\*\***

### **Searches**

The Board seeks to assure a learning environment which protects the health, safety and welfare of students and staff. To assist the Board in attaining these goals, district officials may search a student's person and property, including property assigned by the district for the student's use. District officials may seize any item which is evidence of a violation of law, district policy or rules, or which the possession or use of is prohibited by law, policy or rules.

The superintendent will develop rules for implementing this policy in a manner which both protects students' rights and provides a safe learning environment without unreasonable interference following these basic procedures:

1. A search may be conducted when there is reasonable suspicion to believe that evidence or a prohibited item is present in a particular place;
2. Evidence or a prohibited item may be seized by district officials;
3. A search of district property assigned to students, including but not limited to lockers or desks, may occur from time to time. Students will be notified that a search of district property has occurred and will be notified of any evidence or prohibited item seized;
4. At the time district property is assigned to students for their use, the district shall inform students of conditions for the use of such property and of the intent of the district to conduct searches from time to time.

### **Questioning**

The district shall cooperate with police and juvenile authorities as they carry out their mandated responsibilities. More importantly, however, the district also has a responsibility to the students and their parents to insure that the student's education is not interrupted and their rights are protected. Therefore, the district staff shall at all times be in control of all interviews or interrogations of students on school premises.

When law enforcement officials find it necessary to question students during the school day or during periods of extracurricular activities, an administrator will be present when possible. An effort will be made to inform the parent, guardian or person in a parental relationship. However, in suspected child abuse cases, Oregon Department of Human Services and law enforcement officials may exclude district personnel from investigation procedures and may prohibit informing the parents.

When law enforcement officials find it necessary to take a student into custody, the administrator will request that the officials act in a manner which causes the least possible disruption to the learning environment.

END OF POLICY

---

**Legal Reference(s):**

[ORS 332.107](#)

[OAR 581-021-0050 to -0075](#)

New Jersey v. T.L.O., 469 U.S. 325 (1985).