

10500 STUDENT DISCIPLINE**10515 Student Driving and Parking Privileges**

The District is required by the School Code (24 P.S. 13-1331) to provide school transportation to students who live beyond a specified distance from a school. Those students who live within the distance specified by the School Code are deemed to live close enough to the school to be able to walk to that school. While transportation is not provided for school related activities, the student is reminded that participation in those activities is a privilege and not mandatory. For these reasons driving to school for either the school day or for school related activities is a voluntary activity and is a privilege. Because driving to school is a voluntary activity and a privilege, those students choosing to drive or ride with a student driving to school are expected to accept the responsibilities and conditions, which accompany the exercise of such privileges.

The District strives to provide a safe and tranquil learning environment. Without a prevailing sense of safety, students cannot effectively learn and teachers cannot effectively teach. This environment of safety is breached when students bring to school property items, which break school rules and/or cause harm or disruption such as weapons, drugs, or alcohol.

Deterring possession of weapons is important. The presence of weapons upon school property or at school related events is a disruption to that safe and tranquil environment. Likewise, deterring drug and alcohol use by school students is important. School years are the time when the physical, psychological and addictive effects of drugs and alcohol are most severe. The effects of drug use in school or at school related events are visited not just upon the users, but upon the entire student body, faculty, and other staff because the educational process is disrupted. Further, alcohol and drug use while driving or riding causes a serious risk of harm because a student under the influence of illegal drugs or alcohol may cause or contribute to an accident which seriously injures himself/herself and other students, faculty members, other staff or the general public.

The purpose of this Policy is to protect the health and safety of students, faculty members, other staff and the general public. This Policy is intended to provide a general outline for the manner in which driving and parking privileges will be handled, for the discipline which will be imposed for the violations of the requirements, and for the discovery of the possession of dangerous items such as weapons, drugs and alcohol. Because students are not necessarily forthcoming and truthful about the possession of such dangerous items, this Policy includes provisions concerning the searching of students' possessions and vehicles in order to preserve the safe learning environment. This Policy advises students who drive to or ride with a student driving to school that [when a vehicle is parked on school property during the school day \(from 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.\)](#) the District may, without seeking the students' permission, conduct random [and suspicionless](#) searches of the vehicle, [including](#)

1 Page 2 10515 Student Driving and Parking Privileges

2
3 any and all locked areas of said vehicle, and any and all containers located in the locked or
4 open areas of said vehicle, including personal containers such as backpacks, purses and the
5 like, regardless of who owns the vehicle or to whom it is registered., ~~and any container, open~~
6 ~~or closed, found the vehicle.~~
7

8 Because of the need to discover the presence of such dangerous items and because a
9 student driver or rider under the influence of drugs or alcohol presents such a serious threat of
10 harm to himself/herself and other motorists and pedestrians, the District's interest in providing
11 a method for preventing such harm overrides the student's expectation of privacy in any
12 vehicle, ~~to school, and in any container, including personal items such as backpacks or purses,~~
13 ~~found in such vehicles~~ including any and all locked areas of said vehicle, and any and all
14 containers located in the locked or open areas of said vehicle, including personal containers
15 such as backpacks, purses and the like. Inasmuch as the student drivers and riders are advised
16 not to have an expectation of privacy in any vehicle parked on school property during the
17 school day (from 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.), it is suggested that any item in which a student has
18 an expectation of privacy not be placed or left in a vehicle driven by a student to school.
19

20 This Policy will govern behavior, eligibility and circumstances concerning driving to,
21 riding to and parking at school and school related events, including students who drive or ride
22 to school related events but park off of school premises, as follows:
23

- 24 1. Any student wishing to ~~park drive~~ any vehicle on ~~to~~ any school premises during the
25 school day (from 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.) must first obtain a Request Form from the
26 Principal's Office of that student's home school, ~~and~~ complete and return the
27 Request Form to said Office for approval, and pay any applicable fees assessed by
28 the District. A request form is not required to be obtained for a student to park a
29 vehicle on a school premises during non-school hours (after 3:00 p.m.) for a school
30 related event.
31
- 32 2. No student shall ~~park drive~~ any vehicle ~~to on~~ any school premises during the school
33 day (from 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.) unless that student has first completed a Request
34 Form, returned that completed Form to the Principal's Office, paid any applicable
35 fees assessed by the District, and received a copy of the approved completed
36 Request Form from the Office.
37
- 38 3. The approved Form is deemed to be the District's permission to the student to ~~park~~
39 ~~drive~~ a vehicle upon school premises during the school day (from 7:30 a.m. to 3:00
40 p.m.), and the student's consent to all terms contained in this Policy and the Request
41 Form.
42
- 43 4. Student parking areas at school premises shall be clearly marked with signs
44 indicating the area in which any vehicle driven onto school premises by any student
45 shall be parked. Students parking on school premises shall only park in areas so
46 designated.
47
48
49

5. Any student requesting ~~driving and~~ parking privileges through the submission of said Request Form agrees and consents to a random and suspicionless search of any vehicle such student ~~parks drives to on a~~ school premises during the school day (from 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.), including any and all locked areas of said vehicle, and any and all containers located in the locked or open areas of said vehicle, including personal containers such as backpacks, purses and the like. Any student who fails to obtain a required, approved Request Form, but who nonetheless ~~parks drives~~ a vehicle upon any school premises during the school day (from 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.), and any student riding with a student driver, shall by virtue of having exercised the privilege of ~~driving, riding and/or~~ parking on school premises, be deemed to have consented to the search described in the preceding sentence.
6. The ~~parking operation~~ of a motor vehicle on a school premises without ~~an required~~, approved Request Form, the operation of a motor vehicle in an unsafe manner, or the use and/or possession of drugs or alcoholic beverages or weapons by a student on school premises shall result in the immediate revocation of all ~~driving and~~ parking privileges, and will, in all likelihood, also subject the student to discipline under the District's Discipline Code.
7. Students who drive or ride to school related events, but do not park on school premises, are also subject to this Policy. However, it is recognized that students who park off of school premises have a greater expectation of privacy with respect to that vehicle and its contents. When there exists a reasonable suspicion that students who have driven or ridden to school related events and have parked off of school premises have broken school rules and/or have caused harm or disruption such as that involving weapons, drugs or alcohol, the District may engage in a "plain view" examination of said vehicle for the purpose of determining whether any contraband exists in plain view areas such as dashboards, seats and the like. In the event that a plain view search reveals the likelihood of contraband items, local law enforcement authorities may be contacted for assistance.
8. Searches and plain view examinations shall be conducted by building administrators. Administrators shall call local law enforcement authorities for assistance when a search could jeopardize the safety of participants.
9. The Superintendent, or his or her designee, may establish procedures for the implementation of the Policy, including the imposition of a ~~permit fee of any~~ applicable fees and collection procedures for the payment thereof.

Adoption Date - October 14, 2002
Practice -
Legal Reference -