

## INVOLVEMENT WITH ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES

Involvement with an illegal substance includes giving, receiving, possessing, consuming, selling, buying or attempting to sell or buy substances not limited to, but such as drugs or alcohol. School supervision will cover school property, coming to and going from school within a reasonable time, extra-curricular functions, athletic events and field trips.

## SEARCH AND SEIZURE

In recent years the increase of drug use and violence in our schools has prompted administrators to resort to search and seizure in order to maintain a safe educational atmosphere for those who attend our nation's schools. The following policy is in compliance with state and federal law and does not violate the rights granted under the Fourth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America.

The district has adopted a specific policy regarding searches. It is important for parents/guardians to know that the district does have the right to conduct searches for reasonable grounds. Additionally, we also reserve the right to conduct unannounced prudent inspections of lockers, desks, computers and other district property to insure the health and safety of the students.

## LOCKER SEARCH POLICY

The Board acknowledges the need for safe in-school storage of books, clothing, school materials and other personal property and may provide lockers for such storage.

All lockers are and shall remain the property of the school district. As such, students shall have no expectation of privacy in their lockers. Students are encouraged to purchase, at their own expense, either combination or key locks for their hall lockers. Locks are provided for students' gym lockers. However, if students do use their own lock for hall lockers, they must provide either the combination or a key to their homeroom teacher.

Students are encouraged to keep their assigned lockers closed and locked against incursion by other students; but no student may use a locker as a depository for a substance or object which is prohibited by law or district regulations, or which constitutes a threat to health, safety or welfare of the occupants of the school building or the building itself.

The Tussey Mountain School District has adopted policy in compliance with the State Department of Education, regulations, which provide for the following: The Board reserves the right to authorize its administrator to inspect a student's locker at any time for the purpose of determining whether the locker is being improperly used for the storage of contraband, a substance or object the possession of which is illegal, or any material that poses a hazard to the safety and good order of the schools.

Students shall be notified at least annually or more often if deemed appropriate by administration, concerning the contents of this policy. This notice shall be provided in the Parent Handbook and posted in the office.

The lockers provided by the school are the property of the school district. Each student is responsible for the contents and condition of his/her locker. The school reserves the right to announce locker inspection and cleaning sessions. As a courtesy, the district will attempt to maintain a twenty-four hour notice of such an action.

However, in the event of an investigation arising from a reasonable suspicion on the part of administration, a student's locker may be searched. Any illegal items or substances will be seized. Prior to a locker search, a student may be notified and given the opportunity to be present. In the event where school administration has a reasonable suspicion that a locker contains materials that pose a threat to the health, welfare and safety of the students in school, a locker search may be performed without prior warning.

Any illegal materials found may be used as evidence against the student in a disciplinary action. The district reserves the right to use drug sniffing dogs and may employ their use at any time without prior warning.

The principal shall be present whenever a student locker is inspected. The principal shall open a student's locker for inspection on the request of a law enforcement officer only on presentation of a duly authorized search warrant or on the intelligently and voluntarily given consent of the student.

The principal shall be responsible for the safekeeping and proper disposal of any substance, object or material found to be improperly stored in a student's locker. The principal shall be responsible for the prompt recording in writing of each locker inspection; such record shall include the reason(s) for the search, persons present, objects found and their disposition.

\*Whenever the search of a student's locker is prompted by the reasonable suspicion that the contents of a student's locker create an emergency, the principal may open the locker as soon as it is necessary to do so to discharge properly his/her duty to protect the persons and property in the school.

## PETS

Due to the possibility of pets having rabies, etc., no animals or pets will be permitted in district buildings unless under controlled conditions with prior administrative approval.