

STUDENT INTERVIEWS, INTERROGATIONS, SEARCHES AND ARRESTS

1. Before a search is conducted, a school official must establish that there is reasonable suspicion that a crime has been or is in the process of being committed or that the search is necessary to maintain school discipline, enforce Colorado Springs School District 11 policies or prevent disruption of the educational process and that the individual to be searched is involved. Student lockers, desks, vehicles, and personal items not worn by the student may be subject to sniffs by dogs trained to alert at the scent of drugs, alcohol, explosives, or other contraband. If an alert occurs, that will be deemed reasonable suspicion to search further.
2. Schools officials will ask the student to surrender the contraband he is believed to have and/or seek his consent before making the search. If consent is denied, the following procedures will apply.
3. Locker searches should be conducted as follows. The school official will:
 - a. Inform the student that his locker will be searched.
 - b. Accompany the student and another staff member to the locker.
 - c. Instruct the student to open the locker and remove its contents in his presence.
 - d. Notify the student's parents/guardians of the action and the results.
4. Searches of a person which requires removal of clothing other than a coat or jacket will be referred to a law enforcement officer. No strip search will be carried out by any school employee. Coats, book bags, backpacks, or other items not physically worn by students may be subject to sniffs by dogs trained to alert at the scent of drugs, alcohol, explosives or other contraband. An alert will constitute reasonable suspicion to search the article. A school official may contact any law enforcement agency and inform it of the circumstances supporting his belief that the student is concealing contraband.
5. Reasonableness must be stressed in all instances in which a search is indicated. The school official must consider: "Is there reasonable suspicion to believe..."

Approved May 23, 1984

Revised December, 1994

Revised March, 2003

Revised March, 2008

Reviewed June 5, 2012

Reviewed September 9, 2015

Reviewed September 12, 2018

LEGAL REF.: C.R.S. 9-1-101 through 9-1-106
C.R.S. 22-3-101 through 22-3-104
C.R.S. 22-32-109.1
C.R.S. 22-32-110 (1) (k)
C.R.S. 22-32-124 (2), (3)
C.R.S. 24-10-106.5

CROSS REF.: ADD, Safe and Secure Schools
ADD-R-1, Safe and Secure Schools Plan
EBCA, Disaster Plans
ECA/ECAB, Security/Access to Buildings
JICDE, Bullying Prevention and Education
JIH, Student Interviews, Interrogations, Searches, and Arrests
JLCE, First Aid and Emergency Medical Care
KLG, Relations with Law Enforcement Authorities