

VIDEO SURVEILLANCE ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

The School Committee recognizes the school district's continuing responsibility to ensure the safety of staff and students and to maintain order in and around school. After carefully balancing the need for maintaining safety, student discipline, order in and around school property with students' and staffs' interests in privacy, the School Committee supports the use of video surveillance cameras on school grounds and in areas of common use within buildings. Areas of common use include but may not be limited to parking lots, school entrances, hallways, cafeterias, libraries and gymnasiums. In an effort to maintain school safety, order in and around school property, and reduce student behavior violations, the cameras may be used to monitor student behavior and monitor activities in and around the school property at any time.

Notice of use of video cameras for safety, maintaining order in and around school property and student disciplinary purposes will be provided to students, parents and staff in appropriate handbooks and on the District's website on an annual basis.

Student violations of Board policies/procedures and school rules viewed or recorded on the video surveillance system shall be addressed in accordance with the applicable Board policies and/or school rules. In addition, evidence of illegal activities may be referred to law enforcement authorities. When surveillance recordings are used as a basis for discipline, parents/guardians will be given the opportunity to view the portion of the tape pertaining to the alleged violation.

Any recording used in a disciplinary proceeding will be retained as part of a student's disciplinary record, being disposed of as other such documentation except when special circumstances warrant longer retention. In regard to such video recordings, the school system will comply with all applicable provisions of state and federal law concerning student records.

The Superintendent is responsible for the development of administrative procedures regarding the use of the video surveillance system. Such procedures will provide a process for review when significant violations of the student discipline/conduct code occur. Procedures will also address monitoring of cameras, requests to view video recordings, and retention of video recordings.

Cross Reference: EEAEFA-R – Video Surveillance on School Property Administrative Procedure
 EEAEF – Video Camera Use on School Vehicles
 JRA – Student Educational Records

Adopted: October 2006
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