

Policy

SECURITY AND ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE

Security

The security of the Frenchtown School District buildings and grounds for protecting the safety of the students, staff and the school community is essential for creating an environment where student achievement can be fostered.

Security means all buildings shall be locked when not in use, and safe practices shall be employed in the use of electrical, plumbing, and heating equipment for protection from fire hazards and faulty equipment. The board requires close cooperation with local police and fire departments and with building inspectors.

An adequate key control system shall be established to control access to school buildings. Funds and valuable records shall be kept in a safe place and securely locked. The superintendent shall oversee the development of procedures to provide for the security of the students, the staff, and of school facilities and property.

The superintendent or his or her designee shall investigate and implement efficient and economical security measures to prevent theft and vandalism. In addition, the superintendent shall take the appropriate measures to minimize hazards due to fire, faulty equipment and other structural or environmental hazards. The board shall take legal action and seek restitution for acts of vandalism that result in damage or destruction of school property.

Electronic Surveillance

The Frenchtown Board of Education authorizes the use of electronic surveillance equipment in school buildings and on school property to ensure the health, welfare, and safety of all staff, students, and visitors to district property and to safeguard district buildings, grounds, and equipment. The superintendent will approve appropriate locations for surveillance equipment.

The superintendent will notify staff and students, through staff and student handbooks or by other means that surveillance equipment may record school activity in school buildings and on school property. The following statement shall be posted in a prominent, public place in buildings and on school grounds where electronic surveillance equipment may be used:

The Frenchtown Board of Education authorizes the use of electronic surveillance monitoring devices in school buildings and on school grounds. Therefore, all school buildings and school grounds within this school district may be monitored using such devices in accordance with board policy.

The content of the surveillance recordings may become a part of a student's educational record or of a staff member's personnel record. Content added to student and staff records shall be confidential according to law and board policies (see 4112.6/4212.6 Personnel Records, 5125 Student Records). Content related to disciplinary proceedings shall be subject to rules for all the forms of evidence. Surveillance footage used as evidence shall be permitted only when it is in a legitimate educational interest. The district will comply with all applicable state and federal laws related to record maintenance and retention.

Adopted: November 25, 2008
NJSBA Review/Update: September 2016
Readopt: January 24, 2017

SECURITY AND ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE (continued)Key Words

Security, Electronic Surveillance, Surveillance, Video Camera

Legal

References: N.J.S.A. 18A:11-1 General mandatory powers and duties
N.J.A.C. 6A:16-5.1 School safety and security plans
N.J.A.C. 6A:26-1.1 et seq. Facilities

Possible

Cross References: *1330 Use of school facilities
*1410 Local units
*3510 Operation and maintenance of plant
*3516 Safety
*4112.6/4212.6 Personnel records
*4147/4247 Employee safety
*5125 Student records
*5131 Conduct and discipline
*5131.1 Harassment, intimidation and bullying
*6114 Emergencies and disaster preparedness
*7110 Long-Range Facilities Planning

*Indicates policy is included in the Critical Policy Reference Manual.