BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS SECURITY

The Board recognizes the value of electronic surveillance systems in monitoring activity on school property and in school vehicles in protecting the health, welfare and safety of its students and staff. Carefully weighing the rights of privacy of students and staff against the District’s duty to maintain order and discipline, the Board authorizes the use of electronic surveillance systems.

Cameras

1. Cameras are not positioned in areas where individuals have a reasonable expectation of privacy.

2. The administration provides prior written notice to staff, students and parents/guardians that electronic surveillance may occur on school property or in school vehicles. In addition, appropriate signs are posted in building entrances and at other locations deemed appropriate by the administration to inform visitors that electronic surveillance may occur on District property.

3. The use of cameras in transportation vehicles is supervised by the building principals and the transportation supervisor.

4. The use of cameras is subject to District policies concerning the confidentiality of student and staff records.

5. Surveillance cameras are used only to promote the order, safety and security of students, staff and property.

Portable Metal Detectors

Notices are posted at each main doorway and in student handbooks explaining that weapons are not permitted at school and that students may be required to submit to a metal detector check. Further, prior to beginning metal detector checks, a principal, his or her designee or a law enforcement officer shall explain the process to the student body, emphasizing that checks are intended to maintain a safe school environment. And finally, the administration will provide prior written notice to staff, students and parents or guardians that metal detectors will be in use on school property.
The process for the use of metal detectors shall be as follows:

1. At the high school, students will enter through the fitness hall exterior doorway. At the middle school, students will enter through the main entrance to the middle school doorways. All students, including children of administrators and/or staff will be required to utilize only these doors upon morning arrival. This will occur between 7:00 a.m. and 7:35 a.m. If an administrator or staff member brings their elementary school child or children with them, that elementary school child shall not be required to be screened through the metal detectors.

2. Upon entering the metal detector area, a principal, his or her designee or a law enforcement officer will ask each student to remove all metal containing objects from his or her clothing, personal effects, bag, purse, backpack, book bag, chromebook or other electronic device case and/or any other storage device and to place all such items into a container prior to screening. The metal on belt buckles and in shoes/boots can set off metal detectors; therefore, a student may be requested to remove their belts or shoes/boots prior to being screened. All purses, bags, backpacks, book bags, cases, containers or other items shall be hand searched. Finally, anyone prior to being screened who has any opened bottles or cups shall have to throw the bottle and/or cup into a trash can.

3. If a student is found to possess contraband, weapons, drugs/alcohol or any other illegal and/or unauthorized substance, the consequences within the student code of conduct will be enforced and law enforcement will be contacted.

4. The principal, his or her designee or a law enforcement officer shall then have the student proceed through the metal detector. If the metal detector is set off when the student passes through it, the student will be given the opportunity to again empty his or her pockets or remove any other items that may have possibly set off the detector and will then be required to proceed through the metal detector again. If the metal detector is set off a second time, the student will be scanned by a hand-held wand. Should the wand be set off, the student will be removed to a secure location under the supervision of either the principal, his or her designee or a law enforcement officer. If needed, law enforcement shall be notified and an attempt to notify the student’s parents or guardian will be made. Further, a same-sex principal, his or her designee or law enforcement officer may also perform a pat-down search of the student’s outer clothing in the area indicated by the metal detector and/or hand-held wand.

5. If during either a scan or other search of a student any weapon, contraband, drugs/alcohol and/or other illegal substances or items are found, that student shall be securely detained and law enforcement shall be notified. Further, such weapon,
contraband, drugs/alcohol and/or other illegal substances or items shall be turned over to legal authorities for ultimate disposition and/or disposal.

6. Refusal or any other type of insubordination by students in regard to metal detector searches will be dealt with using the following criteria:

1. First refusal, the student will be removed to a secure location under the supervision of either the principal, his or her designee or a law enforcement officer. The student’s parents or guardian will be called to remove the student from school for that day, which will be counted as an unexcused absence.

2. Second refusal will result in the student being removed to a secure location under the supervision of either the principal, his or her designee or a law enforcement officer. The student’s parents or guardian will be called to remove the student from school for that day, which will be counted as an unexcused absence. The student will be suspended ten (10) days with recommendation for expulsion. Board policies regarding suspension/expulsion will be followed in such circumstances.

7. If a legitimate medical reason exists to keep a student from going through the metal detector, the principal, his or her designee or a law enforcement officer shall use a hand-held device to scan the student, and shall otherwise follow the procedures set forth herein. If a legitimate reason exists to not go through a metal detector, it is incumbent upon a student’s parents or guardian to provide written medical proof from a medical doctor to the principal or his or her designee that a condition exists that would prohibit the student from going through the metal detector. If no such written medical proof is provided, the student will be treated as any other student without a medical condition and will be expected to pass through the metal detector, following the same procedures set forth herein.

8. All visitors to the Union Local Campus will be subject to the same criteria identified above.