

VIDEO AND AUDIO RECORDING AND SURVEILLANCE ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

The Board authorizes the use of video and/or audio devices on District 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 devices. Placement of the video cameras will be based on the presumption and belief that students, staff, and visitors have no reasonable expectation of privacy in areas or at events that occur in plain view. However, such devices are not to be placed in bathrooms or locker rooms.

Recording equipment will be placed in classrooms only after School Board approval following a public hearing. The administration must receive written permission and consent from the classroom teacher and the parent/guardian of all students within the classroom prior to the use of recording equipment within a classroom.

Signs will be posted on school buildings to notify students, staff, and visitors that video cameras may be in use. Parents and students will also be notified through the student handbook. Students will be responsible for any violations of school rules caught on tape by cameras.

The District will retain copies of recordings until they are erased, which may be accomplished by either deletion or copying over with a new recording. The Superintendent or designee will consult with the necessary personnel to determine how and when such recordings should be deleted.

Recordings containing evidence of a violation of student conduct rules and/or state or federal law will be retained until the issue of the misconduct is no longer subject to review or appeal as determined by Board policy or applicable law. Any release or viewing of the recording will be in accordance with the law.

Recordings may be reviewed by District personnel for discipline and evaluation purposes. If disciplinary action is taken as a result of the recording, the parent/guardian of the student may request to view the recording with the building principal or Superintendent.

Recordings may become a part of a student's educational record or a staff member's personnel record. The District will comply with all applicable laws related to record maintenance and retention.

Unauthorized use or distribution is prohibited. Violation will lead to disciplinary action. The Superintendent is authorized to contact the District's attorney for a full legal opinion relative in the event of such an occurrence.

Legal References:

20 USC 1232g, Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)
34 CFR 99, Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act Regulations
RSA 189:65, Definitions
RSA 189:68, Student Privacy