

THE WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION

TO: The Chair and Members
Winnipeg Public School Board

November 6, 2017

FROM: P.E. Clarke
Chief Superintendent

NEW BUSINESS

RE: STUDENT SEARCH AND SEIZURE

The following Notice of Motion is being presented by Trustee Wasyliw:

a) That **Policy JFG - Student Search and Seizure** be revised to include policy and procedures relating to:

- Body searches;
- Locker searches;
- Backpack, automobile or personal property searches;
- Cell phone seizures;
- Cell phone searches;
- Rules regarding privacy and information sharing with police agencies;
- Staff privacy and personal cell phones.

and that the revised policy be referred to the Policy/Program Committee for review.

b) That **Policy JG - Safe Schools** be revised to include the guiding principles of progressive discipline, restraint, proportionality and restorative justice and that the revised policy be referred to the Policy/Program Committee for review.

c) That a policy be developed in relation to security cameras in schools and that the policy be referred to the Policy/Program Committee for review.

d) That the draft of each of these policies, once approved by the Policy/Program Committee for distribution of Policy JFG-Student Search and Seizure, JG-Safe Schools and Security Cameras in Schools be referred to the District Advisory Committees for feedback and comments prior to Board approval.

Rationale:

There has been significant and rapid technological changes that have impacted our schools. Once cellphones were considered luxuries and now they are must have personal items, which an overwhelming number of students and staff bring into our schools each and every day.

The Winnipeg School Division (WSD) has completed an infrastructure program of installing CCTV surveillance cameras in all of our schools.

The WSD has been evolving with the times. The philosophy in regards to conflict and behavior issues has evolved into one of progressive discipline, based on restraint and the principles of restorative justice.

The WSD believes in the privacy of its students and staff as long as others in the school community are not negatively impacted by their actions. Canadian attitudes and laws in relation to privacy have changed. This needs to be reflected in our policies.

The WSD currently has no policy governing CCTV surveillance cameras. Likewise, we have no policy that would govern when a cellphone may be seized by a staff member and what if any searches of the contents of the cellphone would be permissible by our staff.

The WSD has a Student Search and Seizure policy which was last updated in 1999. It references policies that no longer exists and is badly in need of an update.

It is proposed that ***Policy JFG - Student Search and Seizure*** be updated, rewritten and revised to include policy and procedures relating to:

- Body searches
- Locker searches
- Backpack or personal property searches
- Cell phone seizures
- Cell phone searches
- Rules regarding privacy and information Sharing with police agencies
- Staff privacy and personal cell phones

It is proposed that policy ***JG - Safe Schools*** which was last reviewed on February 20, 2006 be updated to reflect and include the principles of progressive discipline, the principles of restraint, proportionality and restorative justice.

It is proposed that a new CCTV policy be created to outline WSD policies in relation to use of security cameras in our schools.