

CANINE SWEEP PROTOCOL

Burriss Laboratory School has a responsibility for the health and safety of its students during the course of the school day, at all athletic events, non-athletic extra-curricular activities, and all co-curricular activities. Drug and alcohol use and the presence and possession of alcoholic beverages, controlled substances, medications (including over-the-counter medications without permission), any other illegal drug, and/or drug paraphernalia (collectively, “Contraband”) at Burriss Laboratory School pose a serious risk to health and safety to students, employees and visitors and the school is not immune to such risk in carrying out its responsibility.

Indiana Code § 20-33-8-32(b) establishes that a student “who uses a locker that is the property of a school corporation is presumed to have no expectation of privacy in that locker or the locker’s contents.” Furthermore, Indiana Code § 20-33-8-32(d) establishes that a law enforcement agency with jurisdiction may assist a school administrator “in searching a student’s locker and the locker’s contents.” Additionally, students have a diminished expectation of privacy in any private personal item or opaque container brought into Burriss Laboratory School, such as a backpack, briefcase, purse/handbag, folder, book, article of outerwear, or other similar item (collectively, “Personal Belonging”). Moreover, Burriss Laboratory School has a substantial interest in maintaining discipline at school and protecting students, employees and visitors.

A. Definitions.

The definitions provided in the Drug and Alcohol Testing Policy for Students contained in this Student Handbook shall apply and have the same meaning in this Canine Sweep Protocol.

B. Statement of Purpose for the Program.

In order to provide a safe and secure environment conducive to teaching and learning at Burriss Laboratory School, the purpose of this Canine Sweep Protocol is provide a uniform procedure for canine sweeps and to:

1. Deter the presence and possession of Contraband;
2. Deter drug and alcohol abuse;
3. Educate students as to the serious physical, mental and emotional harm caused by drug and alcohol abuse;
4. Prevent injury, illness and harm as result of drug and/or alcohol abuse;
5. Help identify student drug use and assist parents in pursuing evaluation and appropriate counseling; and
6. Maintain a safe environment free of alcohol and drug use.

C. Sweep Procedure.

Burris Laboratory School may request and schedule a canine sweep to be administered by any state or local law enforcement agency during the school day. Upon arrival of the canine, students shall be informed of the canine's arrival, and may be required to set any Personal Belonging on their desk, in their locker, or in the hallway outside their classroom. Students shall otherwise remain in their respective classrooms during the sweep, unless the canine is escorted through their classroom. The canine may be escorted throughout school grounds, including past lockers and Personal Belongings.

The canine sweep must be conducted in a manner that avoids any contact between the canine(s) and students. Those conducting the sweep must ensure that no canine sniffs any student. A Burris Laboratory School administrator shall be present at all times with the canine and law enforcement officer(s). Canines will always be under the control of a qualified and authorized handler. Such school administrator will note each locker or Personal Belonging the canine indicates may contain Contraband, and the canine shall continue being escorted throughout school grounds.

An indication by the canine that Contraband is present on school property shall be reasonable cause for a further investigation by the school administrator. After the canine sweep is completed, the school administrator shall ask any student whose locker or Personal Belonging was indicated by a canine as potentially containing Contraband to accompany the school administrator to such locker or Personal Belonging. The school administrator shall then open and investigate such locker or Personal Belonging, in the presence of the student and the law enforcement officer(s). Any unclaimed or unidentifiable Personal Belonging shall be opened by the school administrator, in the presence of the law enforcement officer(s) and investigated for Contraband and identification of the owner. If ownership cannot be determined, such Personal Belonging shall be turned over to law enforcement.

Any Contraband discovered shall be turned over to the law enforcement officer(s) present during the sweep. The parent(s) or guardian(s) of a minor student shall be notified by school officials of the item removed and the delivery thereof to law enforcement officials. Further, the student shall be disciplined, suspended, and/or expelled in accordance with the Student Handbook. Students who refuse to cooperate fully with the sweep procedures shall be suspended out of school. Further, the administration of Burris Laboratory School may request expulsion of any student who refuses to cooperate fully with the sweep procedures outlined in this policy.