

Policy ECA Security

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Purpose: To establish the basic structure for security of district buildings and grounds.

The superintendent will develop and implement procedures designed to ensure the security of school property and for the protection of students, staff, and citizens.

The district maintains school buildings and grounds for the education and recreation of the school children in the district. No one may use the buildings or grounds in a way that would interfere with their most effective use for the benefit of the school children.

~~The principal is responsible for seeing that all doors are locked, equipment is shut off and windows are secured at the close of the school day. Employees designated by the principal who work after the principal leaves must accept full responsibility in these matters.~~

District property is not open to the public unless the district has specifically opened a building or grounds for public use or for an event to which the public is invited. Staff may require identification of any person on school property. The superintendent or his/her designee will establish regular hours and locations where members of the general public may contact the district and interact with district staff.

All staff and volunteers are required to maintain security in district buildings, enforce building access rules, and take action when doors are left unsecured or district security is otherwise compromised. The principal of each school is ultimately responsible for seeing that the school is secure throughout and at the close of each school day.

The board requires and encourages close cooperation with the local police and sheriff's departments, the fire department and with insurance inspectors. The principal must immediately report all theft, vandalism or destruction of school property to law enforcement authorities **and to the superintendent's office.**

Contacting law enforcement

The principal is empowered to take appropriate action (including calling the police and swearing out warrants) against any person(s) who willfully and unnecessarily interferes with the operation of the school, loiters without permission or acts in an obnoxious manner.

The principal is required to contact law enforcement authorities immediately upon notice that a person is engaging in or has engaged in certain activities on school property or at a school sanctioned or sponsored activity. Those activities are ones which may result, or do in fact result, in injury or serious threat of injury to the person or to another person, or his/her property **or disruption of a school event.**

The principal is also required to notify the superintendent's office immediately when law enforcement has been contacted.

Adopted 1975; Revised 8/2/05

Legal references

S.C. Code, 1976, as amended:

[Section 16-17-420](#) - Authority to take appropriate action.

[Section 59-19-90\(5\)](#) - General authority to manage and control property of district.

[Section 59-19-120](#) and [59-19-140](#) - Specific rule-making powers regarding district property.

[Section 59-24-60](#) - Requires administration to contact law enforcement.

[Section 63-7-310](#) - Persons required to report.

[Section 16-3-612](#) - South Carolina Teacher Protection Act of 2004.