

**USE OF DOGS TRAINED TO DETECT ILLEGAL  
AND DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES**

**POLICY**

- A. It is the policy of the Board of Education that CLEET Certified dogs trained to detect illegal and dangerous substances may be used in the District ("CLEET" is the Council of Law Enforcement Education and Training). To assure the maintenance of a drug-free school environment, Tulsa Technology Center ("TTC") may use detection dogs to discover illegal and dangerous substances concealed in school property assigned to students and in vehicles driven by students while parked on school property. Any student who drives a vehicle to school is deemed to have consented to such search. Notification to students will be provided in the Student Handbook. If a detection dog alerts its handler to a student desk or other space provided by TTC, then an immediate search of that area can take place. If a detection dog alerts its handler to a student vehicle parked on School District property, a site administrator, superintendent or his designee will request the student owner/operator to allow a further search of the vehicle. If a minor student refuses to allow such search, school personnel will immediately contact the student's parent or guardian. Illegal items or other possessions or substances reasonably determined to be a threat to the safety or security of others may be seized by school authorities. These items will immediately be turned over to law enforcement officials for disposition as they see fit. A student who refuses to allow his or her vehicle to be searched or who refuses to turn over items discovered as the result of a search may be suspended for such refusals. The person conducting the search of a vehicle shall prepare a written report to be maintained by the site administrator including the date, time, place, names of witnesses, purpose, basis, and result of the search.
- B. TTC will only utilize a detection dog to sniff a student's person based upon a "reasonable suspicion", (see Student Search and Seizure Policy STU-23). If a dog alerts on an individual during a search, that alert will constitute reasonable suspicion.
- C. TTC may also properly use detection dogs to discover illegal and dangerous substances in all District facilities whether or not students are present.

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**PROCEDURES**

In accordance with the policy of the Board of Education, the following procedure shall govern searches on school property by detection dogs.

Searches on school property and grounds will be conducted during periodic unannounced visits either during school hours or non-school hours at the discretion of the superintendent.

All lockers, vehicles, and school desks are subject to search. If a detection dog indicates the possible presence of any material that the dog is trained to detect, that area or place or object will be further searched by designated school personnel.

No student, employee, or other person will be the target of a search by a detection dog unless reasonable suspicion exists with regard to that particular person. However, if the detection dog indicates the possible presence of material that the dog is trained to detect is contained in a locker, desk, or vehicle, a further search will be conducted by designated school personnel. This search will be of the cold weather outerwear, purse, pockets, containers, or other items of concealment in the possession of the student assigned to that locker or desk or driving that vehicle.

Searches which disclose the presence of any material which the dog is trained to detect, or any material or items which is forbidden by school policy may lead to further investigation by school officials or law enforcement officers, and/or disciplinary action by the school. Such disciplinary action may include suspension. No disciplinary action will be taken without appropriate due process. Parental or legal guardian notification will be made in all cases where prohibited substances, materials, or items are discovered in the possession of a minor student. Illegal or dangerous substances will be turned over to law enforcement officials.

Strip searches or removal of any clothing other than cold weather outerwear are prohibited.

**REFERENCE: 70 O.S. §24-102**