

SEARCH POLICY

Lockers are the property of Westinghouse Arts Academy Charter School. Therefore, students have only a limited expectation of privacy in their lockers. Lockers will not be used to store any substance or item that is prohibited by law, Westinghouse Arts Academy Charter School policy or rules, or that presents a threat to the health, safety or welfare of Westinghouse Arts Academy Charter School's community or property.

Procedures

- Westinghouse Arts Academy Charter School reserves the right to search a student's locker at any time based on reasonable suspicion for the purpose of determining whether the locker is being used improperly for the storage of contraband, drugs or controlled substances, illegal objects or anything that poses a threat to the school population.
- Inspections or searches may include but not be limited to the use of certified drug-sniffing dogs, metal detectors or any similar means or device used to protect the health, safety and welfare of the school population.
- The Principal or his/her designee will be present whenever a student locker is searched on the basis of reasonable suspicion.
- The student will be notified and be given an opportunity to be present before an individual locker search based on reasonable suspicion. If, however, Westinghouse Arts Academy Charter School has reasonable suspicion that a locker contains something that poses a threat to the health, safety or welfare of Westinghouse Arts Academy Charter School's school population, the student locker may be searched without prior warning and without the student being present.
- A Principal shall open a student locker on the request of law enforcement only upon presentation by the requesting officer of a duly authorized search warrant or on the intelligent and voluntary consent of the student.
- The Principal will be responsible for the safekeeping and proper disposition of any substance or item found in a student locker if such substance or item is prohibited by law, Westinghouse Arts Academy Charter School policy or rules, or presents a threat to the health, safety or welfare of Westinghouse Arts Academy Charter School's community or property. Confiscated substances or items may be used as evidence in a disciplinary hearing.
- Illegal or dangerous substances or items will be given to law enforcement officials.
- Students are responsible for the security of their lockers.
- Students, parents and staff will receive a copy of this policy at least annually.
- The Principal or his/her designee will develop procedures to implement this policy.