

**BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT # 097
POLICY MANUAL**

CODE: F 41

**1ST READING: 5/9/2019
2ND READING: 6/13/2019
ADOPTED: 6/13/2019**

VIDEO SURVEILLANCE

Policy

It is the policy of the Barre Unified Union School District (BUUSD) to install and use video surveillance equipment where appropriate, for the purposes of maintaining safe and secure school campuses and providing the best possible safety and security for students, staff and others. The BUUSD recognizes the legal obligation to provide the appropriate levels of supervision in the interests of student safety as well as the fact that students have privacy rights.

Video surveillance is used to accomplish 3 goals:

- (a) To enhance the safety of staff, students, and all school community members.
- (b) To protect Campus property against theft and vandalism.
- (c) To assist in the identification of intruders.

The system is not designed nor intended to protect individuals from being victims of violent or property crimes, nor to detect other potentially or illegal or undesirable activities which may occur, although any information obtained may be used as evidence in such cases. At no time should students, staff, parents and/or community members have any expectation that camera coverage is exhaustive, or that anyone is monitoring events on the surveillance cameras as they occur. Nor should they assume that someone will immediately respond to an incident in progress. All incidents of concern need to be reported immediately to the administration.

Implementation

Video surveillance systems are installed in the schools and on school buses, and include the capability for video recording. Cameras may be installed in both interior and exterior areas where there is a legitimate need for video surveillance. Cameras will not be installed in restrooms, athletic locker facilities, or other areas where students, staff, or others have a reasonable expectation of privacy. The BUUSD shall provide prior written notice to staff, students and parents/legal guardians that video surveillance may occur on BUUSD property. The notice shall be present in student/family handbooks.

All recorded footage is to be considered confidential and is to be viewed only on an “as needed” basis by those individuals authorized herein, and in compliance with state and federal law, including FERPA. The only personnel who may view digital video tapes or digital files in the schools are the principals, their designees, and the School Resource Officer or other BUUSD

staff when necessary in the performance of their duties and only for the purposes as outlined in the goals above.

If illegal activity is seen on the recording the appropriate administrator shall share the footage with the appropriate law enforcement officials.

Video surveillance equipment will not be used for the purposes of monitoring school staff completing their assigned duties.

Legal Reference(s):

CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES – U.S. Const., 4 Am. ~20 USCA 1232(g)

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

New Jersey v. T.L.O., 469 U.S. 325 (1989)

Cross Reference: