LENAPE TECHNICAL SCHOOL

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: PERSONAL SEARCH OF STUDENTS

ADOPTED: August 19, 2004

REVISED: February 19, 2015

226.2. PERSONAL SEARCH OF STUDENTS

1. Purpose

The Joint Operating Committee has an obligation to maintain a safe, healthy and productive educational environment and may at times require the personal search of students.

2. Definition

Individualized suspicion means that a school official has a reasonable belief that a particular student is in possession of an illegal substance, contraband, stolen property or a weapon.

3. Guidelines

The regulations of the State Board of Education provide that reasonable force may be used by teachers and school authorities to obtain possession of weapons or other dangerous objects.

Upon the existence of individualized suspicion, the school official will request that the student voluntarily empty his/her pockets, remove any coat, bookbag, backpack or purse so that the same may be searched by the school official. The search shall take place in the presence of another adult.

A student may be asked to remove his/her outer coat, sweater or jacket, which may be searched by the school official. A student may be asked by school officials to remove shoes, hats, or clothing below the knee or above the neck. A student may also be asked to empty his/her pockets, bookbag and/or other bags, purses, etc.

If the student resists such a voluntary search, the school official shall immediately summon the local police and request assistance. The parent/guardian of the student shall likewise be notified. School officials shall cooperate with any police investigation. Upon the police appearing, however, under no circumstances shall the school official act as the student's informed adult in regards to any Miranda warnings.