

VIDEO SURVEILLANCE & RECORDING IN SCHOOLS**Purpose & Scope of Use**

The Yellowstone School District #14 uses electronic surveillance systems in order to help ensure that school premises and individuals on school premises are safe and secure. Any person entering a school facility, on school property, at a school function, or riding a school bus is subject to being videotaped.

Cameras may be used for the following purposes:

1. To protect the school premises from property damage;
2. To deter property damage;
3. To ensure the safety and security of individuals who are on the school premises;
4. To monitor and deter criminal activity from occurring.

Cameras will not be used to monitor school staff for job performance purposes.

Cameras may have audio capabilities and will be installed on a closed-circuit network.

Camera Locations

1. Subject to the provisions below, cameras may be placed both in and outside school building(s). Areas chosen for surveillance should be where surveillance serves the purposes outlined in section one of this policy.
2. All cameras must be unconcealed and clearly visible.
3. Cameras shall not be placed in changing rooms, washrooms, and areas where students, staff, and others have a reasonable expectation of privacy.
4. Cameras located internally shall not be directed to look through windows to areas outside the building, unless necessary to protect external assets.
5. Cameras shall not be directed in adjacent, non-district buildings.

Notification

Signs advising the presence of video surveillance will use the following practices will notify individuals of:

1. The area in which surveillance is conducted;
2. The purpose for the surveillance;
3. Hours during which surveillance may be conducted;
4. Who is responsible for conducting surveillance in the department; and,
5. The contact person who can answer questions about the cameras, including an address or telephone number for contact purposes.

Use of Recorded Information

The Administrator and designee(s) may only use recorded information for purposes as outlined in this policy or for purposes expressly stated under state and federal law.

Access to & Disclosure of Recorded Information

1. Only the Administrator or his or her designate shall have access to the electronic surveillance system while it is in operation.
2. Video monitors will be placed in locations free from public viewing.

SUPPLEMENTARY

Descriptor Code: ACDB

- 3. The District shall comply with all applicable state and federal laws related to access, review, and release of video recordings that are part of the student's educational record under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.
- 4. Recordings not subject to #3 of "Access to & Disclosure of Recorded Information" will be released in accordance with state open record laws. Individuals requesting surveillance footage will be required to view it at the school or pay for the cost of creating a copy.

Audits

The Administrator or his/her designate shall be responsible for auditing use and security of surveillance cameras, including recorded information.

Retention & Disposal of Recordings

- 1. All recorded information not in use shall be securely stored in a locked receptacle or area.
- 2. Recorded information may never be sold, publicly viewed, or distributed in any other fashion except as provided for by this policy and applicable laws.
- 3. All recorded information used for the purpose of this policy shall be numbered and dated by camera site.
- 4. All recorded information shall be retained and destroyed in accordance with applicable laws.

Non-applicable Provision

This policy does not apply to covert or overt surveillance cameras being used by or on behalf of the District as a case specific investigation tool for law enforcement purposes where there is statutory authority and/or the authority of a search warrant to conduct the surveillance.

End of Yellowstone Policy ACDB..... Adopted: 4/17/2023