

VIDEO SURVEILLANCE EQUIPMENT ON SCHOOL CAMPUSES

The Board recognizes the District’s continuing responsibility to maintain and improve student discipline, to ensure the health, welfare and safety of its staff and students when on school grounds, and to protect school property from burglary and vandalism. Because the District has found that there is an ongoing or escalating problem with student behavior and vandalism/theft on school campuses, the District may use video surveillance equipment in public areas of the school campus to monitor student behavior, unauthorized persons on campus, and property burglary/vandalism activity.

The Superintendent is hereby instructed to develop administrative regulations governing the use of video surveillance equipment consistent with this policy and in accordance with applicable state and federal law.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35160 Authority of governing boards

35160.1 Legislative findings and declarations

35161 Powers and duties generally

49050-49064 Searches by school employees

49069-49072 Rights of parents

49075-49078 Privacy of pupil records

51512 Prohibited use of electronic listening or recording device

GOVERNMENT CODE

6250-6259 Access to information

26205.1 Destruction of records

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. 1232(g); 5 CCR 50,51,430-437

Policy
adopted: March 26, 2002
revised: September 27, 2016

VISALIA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Visalia, California

VIDEO SURVEILLANCE ON SCHOOL CAMPUSES

Use

Video surveillance equipment may be installed in the public areas of any school campus at the discretion of the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee when it has been found that there is an ongoing or escalating problem with student behavior and vandalism/theft on that school campus.

Unauthorized staff and students are prohibited from tampering with or otherwise interfering with the video surveillance equipment.

Recorded video images may be reviewed by the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designees, which includes, but is not limited to, law enforcement personnel, administrators, and security personnel. Viewing can be on a random or planned basis.

Maintenance

The Director of Technology shall be responsible for all video surveillance equipment utilized pursuant to this Board Policy and Administrative Regulation.

Recorded video images shall be stored for thirty (30) calendar days. Following this 30-day period, the District may destroy or record over the video images. The District may exercise its discretion to maintain a recorded video image for an indefinite period should it determine that the recorded video image has a useful purpose that exceeds the 30-day period.

A written log is to be maintained which will identify the date(s) of the recorded video images, the campus, and the location of the recording device.

All recorded video images are the property of the District.

Student Records

In the event a recorded video image reflects conduct which results in the initiation of disciplinary action against a student, the District will treat the recorded video image as a permissive student record. As such, the recorded video image will be considered a student record for purposes of privacy and access.

Viewing of Videotapes

Recorded video images taken pursuant to this Board Policy and Administrative Regulation will be treated as public records pursuant to the California Public Records Act. Where privacy interests outweigh the interest in producing the recorded video image for review by the public, or where another exception to the California Public Records Act is applicable, access to the recorded video images will be prohibited. Recorded video images are not to be removed from district property.

VIDEO SURVEILLANCE ON SCHOOL CAMPUSES (continued)

Notice

The District shall provide students, parents, and staff notification in writing that there is a surveillance system continuously in operation on the campus for the purposes identified in this Board Policy and Administrative Regulation.

In addition, signs must be clearly displayed near the installed digital video equipment to notify those in the area of its presence and that it records 24 hours per day.