

Student Search and Seizure Policy

(Approved 6/15/2021 Board Meeting)

It is the policy of Rockwell Charter High School that authorized school officials have the right to search and seize property as necessary to maintain a safe and effective learning environment on school premises and at all school-related activities.

A search and/or seizure may occur upon “reasonable suspicion” that a law or school rule has been violated or that the safety of students or staff may be jeopardized (ie. possession of controlled substances, weapons, or electronic cigarette products). “Reasonable suspicion” shall be based on specific and objective facts that the search will produce evidence related to the alleged violation. Any search of a student, his/her property, or school property assigned to the student shall be limited in scope and designed to produce evidence related to the suspected violation. Property that may be searched by school officials includes, but is not limited to, lockers, desks, purses, backpacks, electronic devices, etc.

Property that may be seized includes any item deemed illegal, unsafe or otherwise prohibited. School officials shall act in accordance with law when conducting a search and/or seizure and students will not be subjected to excessive and unreasonable intrusion. Searches of individual students shall be conducted in the presence of at least two Rockwell employees. The director or designee shall notify the parent/guardian of a student subjected to a search and/or seizure of property afterward and seized property will be released to a parent or to proper authorities.

Lockers, desks and all other types of equipment provided by the school remain the sole property of Rockwell and are subject to its control and supervision. Students have no reasonable expectation of privacy, and lockers, desks, and other equipment may be inspected at any time with or without reason, and with or without notice, by school personnel.

Reference Laws:

Utah Admin. Code R277-615: Standards and Procedures for Student Searches

Utah Constitution Art X Sec 3

Utah Code 53A-11-1305: Board Rules To Ensure Protection of Individual Rights

Utah Code 53A-1-401(3): Powers of State Board of Education