



Lebanon Community Schools

Seven Oak Middle School

Telephone: (541) 451-8416 * Fax: (541) 451-8431
550 Cascade Drive * Lebanon, OR 97355

January 21, 2014

Dear Parent / Guardian,

We want to partner with you for the safety of your child and are deeply committed to the safety of everyone on our campus. While our primary goal is to focus on learning, efforts are ongoing to provide the safest learning environment possible for every child at Seven Oak Middle School.

We teach our students expectations for their behavior and their rights in our school, which will include a lesson this week about school, personal property and their rights related to search and seizure.

A section of the lesson includes information explaining that lockers and other district storage areas provided for students are under the jurisdiction of the district, even though they may be assigned to the student. The district does reserve the right to inspect all lockers without prior notice and at any time to verify that no item which is prohibited on district premises is present and/or that the locker is in proper working order and condition. The law clearly gives school districts the right to inspect/search school property at any time (including the use of law enforcement and canines) as long as there is reasonable suspicion that a policy, law or rule is possibly being violated.

The private contents in the locker are protected by the student's 4th amendment rights concerning search and seizure, but may be searched if reasonable suspicion exists. The student is responsible for the locker issued to them by the school and the contents of that locker. They are responsible for making certain it is locked and that the combination is not available to others.

In situations where district or school officials have information that can reasonably lead them to believe a student is in possession of something unsafe, illegal or prohibited by district/school policy, the student may be searched. In most cases, the student's parents will be notified as a courtesy, but the law does not require the district to have parent or student permission to conduct the search. If the activity or behavior that gives school officials reasonable suspicion occurs when the school is responsible for the student (i.e. passing period, lunch time, school activity), the school still has the right to conduct a search. This includes after school functions, sports activities and dances.

In addition, we maintain school safety through the use of school surveillance systems, additional school radios, and surveillance equipment on all school buses. We welcome your input as we strive to provide the safest learning environment possible at Seven Oak Middle School.

Our administrators will be happy to speak with you if you have any questions or concerns. You may also get information from the Lebanon School District 2013-2014 student/parent handbook. Thank you for the opportunity to serve your children and for the support you provide.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Meckley
Wayne Reposa
Principals