SEARCHES OF STUDENT AUTOMOBILES ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

Oyster River Cooperative School District students recognize that parking their automobiles on school property is a privilege and not a right. As part of this privilege, the district may search students’ automobiles while parked on school property if the district has reasonable suspicion that a violation of school rules or policy has occurred. Students consent to having their automobiles searched by parking in school parking lots.

In the event that an employee of the school district has reason to believe that drugs, drug paraphernalia, or weapons are present in a student’s automobile, that employee will inform the building principal. The principal or designee shall collaborate with the SRO or a representative of the Durham Police Department, for advice and counsel, when considering a search of a student vehicle. The principal shall fill out a vehicle search form, which will be maintained by the district.

Principal or designee conducting a search shall have authority to detain the student or students and to preserve any contraband seized. Contraband seized during the course of a search will be preserved and held in accordance with applicable administrative rules and procedures. A search of a car should be thought of as a last resort; performed when all other options have been considered and felt to not be satisfactory.

Legal Reference:
   NH Constitution, Pt.1, Art.19

Cross Reference:
   JIHB-R – Student Operated Vehicle Search Report
   JLIE – Student Automobile Use