

CODE: F26

Recommended

SECURITY CAMERAS

Purpose

It is the policy of the Missisquoi Valley School District to allow the use of security cameras to monitor and record activity in public areas of district buildings and property to promote the safety and security of the students, staff and property, and to assist school administrators in investigating misconduct on the premises.

Scope

This policy applies to all staff, faculty, students, vendors, contractors, visitors and property of the Missisquoi Valley School District

General Principles

1. The use of security camera equipment on school grounds, district property or school buses shall be supervised and controlled by the Superintendent or designee.
2. The district shall annually notify its students, staff and parents/guardians that security cameras may be in use on any district property or school buses.
3. The district shall post signs at each building with security cameras, notifying occupants that security cameras may be in use.
4. The school board authorizes the installation and use of video cameras in public areas on campus, such as (but not limited to) hallways, auditoriums, lobbies, the cafeteria, and school grounds including the parking lot, sidewalks, playing fields, school buses, district vans, and other school grounds. Individuals, including students who are in such areas do not have a reasonable expectation of privacy. The district shall not install video surveillance systems in areas where there is a reasonable expectation of privacy such as inside restrooms, changing rooms or locker rooms.
5. Security cameras may be used for live, day and night viewing of buildings and grounds by staff authorized by the Superintendent.
6. The use of video recordings from security camera equipment shall be subject to the other policies of the district, including policies concerning the confidentiality of student records. Video monitoring for security purposes will be conducted in a manner consistent with this policy, labor master agreements and any applicable federal, state and local law. Violations of this policy may result in disciplinary action.
7. Video monitoring of public areas for security purposes will be conducted in a manner consistent with all existing Missisquoi School District policies, including the Non-Discrimination Policy, the Harassment, Hazing and Bullying Policy and other relevant policies. This policy prohibits discrimination in monitoring practices based on legally protected bases outlined in Missisquoi Valley School District's Policies on

Non-Discrimination and Harassment, Hazing and Bullying (e.g., race, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, etc.)

8. Security cameras shall be used only to promote the order, safety and security of students, staff and property and to assist school administrators in investigating misconduct by persons on the premises.
9. Security recordings shall be maintained by the district for at least 30 days, after which time the recordings may be purged. If the District becomes aware that a recording is evidence in any kind of disciplinary proceeding, investigation or litigation, the recording must be retained until the matter has been resolved.
10. The use of video surveillance equipment on school grounds and on other district property shall be supervised and controlled by the building administrator or their designee.

<i>VSBA Version:</i>	<i>January 12, 2024</i>
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<i>Date Adopted:</i>	<i>February 20, 2024</i>
<i>Date Amended</i>	<i>November 19, 2024</i>
<i>Legal Reference(s):</i>	<i>Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), 20 U.S.C. §§ 1232g et seq. Balancing Student Privacy and School Safety: A Guide to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act for Elementary and Secondary Schools, US Department of Education (October 2007), available at http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa/safeschools/.</i>
<i>Cross Reference(s):</i>	<i>Fire and Emergency Preparedness Drills Access Control and Visitor Management</i>