



## **Weapons search program**

### *Frequently Asked Questions*

- Q: How will CCSD ensure that random weapons searches do not target certain students?**  
A: We are very cognizant of this concern. The schools, classrooms, and students will be randomly selected.
- Q: How will CCSD ensure the schools, classrooms, and students are randomly selected?**  
A: CCSD will utilize a computer program to ensure that selections are random.
- Q: Who will actually search the student?**  
A: Trained school staff.
- Q: What items will you be looking for during the searches?**  
A: We are searching for weapons.
- Q: Will this be effective?**  
A: This is one strategy to increase school safety and to communicate to our students that we will not tolerate weapons on campus.
- Q: Does CCSD have the right to randomly search students for weapons?**  
A: Yes, because the District has confiscated 11 guns from students so far this school year and needs to ensure student safety.
- Q: What if I don't want my child searched unless I am present?**  
A: Safety needs to be a top priority. Students who fail to comply with the search procedures will not be allowed on school property.
- Q: Will it go on my child's record that he or she was searched?**  
A: No.
- Q: Will clothing items set off the metal detectors?**  
A: The metal-detecting wands will be set to a sensitivity level to identify weapons.
- Q: Will instructional time be lost?**  
A: Safety is a top priority. The procedures will be designed to work as quickly as possible in order to protect instructional time.
- Q: How will students in classrooms be searched?**  
A: Students in a classroom that was randomly selected for a search will be asked to line up to participate in the search.

**Q: Are teachers required to do the searches?**

A: No. The searches will be conducted by a school administrator with the assistance of campus security monitors.

**Q: Does this program apply to elementary schools?**

A: No, the program only applies to middle and high schools.

**Q: What will be considered a weapon?**

A: [CCSD Regulation 5141](#) defines firearms and dangerous weapons.

**Q: Why did the superintendent make this decision?**

A: This decision was made in response to input from the community meetings, where parents and employees said they would like immediate response to the increased numbers of guns on campuses this year.

**Q: What training will be provided to those who perform the searches?**

A: All administrators and campus security monitors will be provided a mandatory training by CCSD School Police.

**Q: How is this not a violation of the 4th amendment?**

A: Courts have recognized the need for searches without reasonable suspicion in certain circumstances. We must weigh the need to take action versus the potential intrusion of privacy. The 11 firearms confiscated from students so far this year creates an urgent enough situation to allow for the type of search that will be implemented.

**Q: Will these searches include pat-downs?**

A: A simple pat down will only be conducted if necessary. For example, to identify an unexplained and unverified metal item that is detected.

**Q: Will students with medical conditions that require needles, diabetics for example, be in violation of bringing a weapon to school?**

A: No because these items are not considered a weapon.

**Q: What about students with special needs?**

A: Administrators and campus security monitors are accustomed to working with and accommodating students who have special needs.

**Q: What about students that parents have said they don't want their child searched?**

A: This is a new procedure designed to address an urgent safety situation. Students who do not comply with the search will be subject to school discipline, just as if they violate other school procedures.

**Q: Are you going to tell students about this?**

A: Yes. We will publish procedures related to these random searches for parents and the community prior to implementation. Administrators and campus security monitors will also be trained on how to explain the procedures to students, and how students were randomly selected.