

711.2R2 USE OF VIDEO CAMERAS ON SCHOOL BUSES REGULATION

The board supports the use of video cameras on school buses as a means to monitor and maintain a safe environment for students and employees. The video cameras may be used on buses used for transportation to and from school, field trips, curricular events and extracurricular events. The contents of the videotapes may be used as evidence in a student disciplinary proceeding.

Student Records

The content of the video is a student record subject to board policy and administrative regulations regarding confidential student records. Only those persons with a legitimate educational purpose may view the video. In most instances, those individuals with a legitimate educational purpose may be the superintendent, building principal, transportation director, bus driver and special education staffing team. A parent may view the video without consent from any student or parent also shown in the video if the other students are just bystanders. But if there is an altercation between multiple students, then all parents must give consent in order for the video to be viewed by parents.

A video recorded during a school-sponsored trip, such as an athletic event, may also be accessible to the sponsor or coach of the activity. If the content of the video becomes the subject of a student disciplinary proceeding, it will be treated like other evidence in the proceeding.

Notice

The school district will annually provide the following notice to students and parents:

Washington Community School District buses are fitted with a digital camera system for the purpose of safety, security and surveillance. These systems will record both video and audio of student behavior on the bus. Video and audio of student misbehavior may be used to determine appropriate disciplinary action regarding misconduct on the bus.

The school district will annually provide the following notice to the public:

Washington Community School District buses are fitted with a digital camera system for the purpose of safety, security, and surveillance. This system is equipped with an external camera designed to capture violators running the school bus stop arm. All video capturing stop arm violations will be given to law enforcement to assist in prosecuting violators to the fullest extent.

The following notice will also be placed on all school buses equipped with a video camera:

This bus is equipped with a video/audio monitoring system.

Review of Video

The school district will review the video:

When necessary as a result of an incident reported by a bus driver or student.

Viewing of video is limited to the individuals having a legitimate educational purpose.

Video Monitoring System

Video cameras will be:

Used on all school district route buses.

Determination of how video cameras will be used and which school buses will be equipped with video equipment will be made by the superintendent in consultation with the building principals and transportation director.

Student Conduct

Students are prohibited from tampering with the video cameras on the school buses. Students found in violation of this regulation will be disciplined in accordance with the school district discipline policy and Good Conduct Rule and will reimburse the school district for any repairs or replacement necessary as a result of the tampering.