

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 9, ARTICLE 15, SECTION 9-15.1 ENTITLED "SEARCH AND SEIZURE GENERALLY; UNAUTHORIZED ITEM SUBJECT TO SEIZURE DEFINED; REFUSAL GROUNDS FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION" OF THE POLICIES OF THE SUFFOLK CITY SCHOOL BOARD - FIRST READING AND ADOPTION**

**BE IT ORDAINED**, by the School Board of the City of Suffolk, Virginia that Chapter 9, Article 15, Section 9-15.1 entitled "Search and seizure generally; unauthorized item subject to seizure defined; refusal grounds for disciplinary action" of the Policies of the Suffolk City School Board, be, and the same is hereby amended as follows:

**Section 9-15.1. Search and seizure generally; unauthorized item subject to seizure defined; refusal grounds for disciplinary action.** — A. A search involves an invasion of privacy. Whether a search of a student is permissible depends on a balancing of the student's right to privacy and freedom from unreasonable search and seizure against the school division's responsibility to protect the health, safety and welfare of all persons in the school community and to carry out its educational mission. To maintain order and discipline in the schools and to protect the health, safety and welfare of students and school personnel, school authorities may search a student, student lockers or student automobiles under the circumstances outlined below and may seize any illegal, unauthorized or contraband materials discovered in the search.

B. As used in this policy the term "unauthorized" means any item dangerous to the health or safety of students or school personnel or disruptive of any lawful function, mission or process of the school or any item described as unauthorized in school rules available beforehand to the student.

C. The locations at which searches of students and student property may be conducted are not limited to the school building or school property. Searches may be conducted wherever the student is involved in a school-sponsored function.

G.D. A student's failure to permit searches and seizures as provided in this policy will be considered grounds for disciplinary action. (Adopted August 14, 1997)

**Legal Authority** - Virginia Code §22.1-78.

**BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED** that all phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs, subsections, sections and chapters of the School Board's Policy Manual not amended or repealed shall remain in full force and effect.

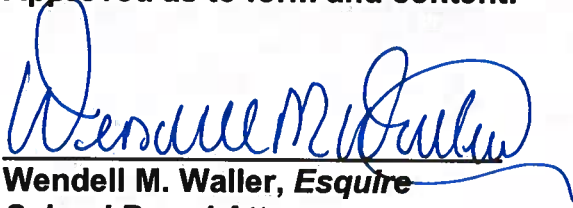
FIRST READING AND ADOPTION: \_\_\_\_\_

EFFECTIVE DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

TESTE: \_\_\_\_\_

CLERK

Approved as to form and content:



**Wendell M. Waller, Esquire**  
**School Board Attorney**