

AMHERST, MONT VERNON, and SOUHEGAN Policy

ECAF - AUDIO AND VIDEO SURVEILLANCE ON SCHOOL BUSES

Category: Recommended

Related Policies: EEA, EEAA, JICC, JICK & JRA

General Authorization.

Video cameras may be used on school buses to monitor student behavior. Audio recordings in conjunction with video recordings may also be captured on school buses, in accordance with the provisions of RSA 570-A:2.

NOTE CONCERNING AUDIO RECORDINGS: Recordings that include audio must also comply with the limitations of RSA 570-A:2, II (k)(2), which provides in pertinent part: "In no event, however, shall the recording be retained for longer than 10 school days unless the school district determines that the recording is relevant to a disciplinary proceeding, or a court orders that it be retained for a longer period of time. An audio recording shall only be reviewed if there has been a report of an incident or a complaint relative to conduct on the school bus, and only that portion of the audio recording which is relevant to the incident or complaint shall be reviewed."

Notification.

This policy constitutes notification that audio and video recordings may be made on school buses used in the district.¹ See also Board policy JICK - Pupil Safety and Violence Prevention.

The Superintendent or his/her designee shall ensure that there is a sign prominently displayed on the school buses informing the occupants of the school buses that such video and audio recordings are occurring. Notification of such video and audio recordings on the bus will also be included in the Student Handbook as well as the District and school websites.

Procedures Concerning Usage and Retention of Audio Recordings.

The Superintendent or their designee is charged with establishing additional administrative procedures consistent with this policy to address the length of time which any audio recording is retained, ownership of the recording, limitations on who may view and listen to the recording, and provisions for erasing or destroying the recordings. Video recordings without audio may be used, retained or destroyed as provided in Board policy EEAA.

Recordings may be viewed/heard only by the following persons and only after expressly authorized by the Superintendent:

- Superintendent or designee
- Transportation Coordinator
- Investigators or attorneys retained by district
- Business Administrator
- Building Administrator
- Law Enforcement Officers

- Parent/guardian of any student involved in disciplinary proceedings and present on the recording.

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The Superintendent is authorized to consult with the District's attorney relative to the use and retention of an audio and video recording either generally or in reference to a particular occurrence.

Student Records.

In the event an audio or video recording is used as part of a student discipline proceeding, such video may become part of a student's education record. If an audio or video recording does become part of a student's education record, the provisions of Policy JRA shall apply.

Legal References:

RSA 570-A:2, Capture of Audio Recordings on School Buses Allowed
34 C.F.R. Part 99, Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act Regulations

Revised: March 9, 2023

Adopted: November 15, 2007 (Souhegan)