POLICY

RIDGEWOOD BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Electronic Surveillance In School Buildings
and On School Grounds

7441 <u>ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE IN SCHOOL BUILDINGS</u> <u>AND ON SCHOOL GROUNDS</u>

Intent

In the interest of the safety and security of our schools and all who enter, the responsible guardianship of publicly funded precious resources, and the most effective use of staff time, video surveillance cameras have been installed in vulnerable areas of the schools. These areas include, but are not limited to the outside main entrances and main lobby, and the hallways.

Video surveillance is required because:

- 1. These areas are readily accessible by all members of the public, pupils and staff.
- 2. These areas are unsupervised and beyond the normal sightlines of staff.
- 3. Staffing of these unsupervised areas would be prohibitively expensive and impractical.

This policy is in force to deter public endangerment, vandalism, theft and mischief in unsupervised areas and to identify those individuals involved in such activity for law enforcement purposes, while adhering to the Protection of Privacy Act and the Freedom of Information Act.

Regulations

Signage in Areas under Surveillance:

The public will be notified, using clearly worded signs prominently displayed at the perimeter of the video surveillance areas, so that school visitors have reasonable and adequate warning that surveillance is or may be in operation before entering any area under video surveillance.

Use of Video Surveillance Equipment:

1. Reception and monitoring equipment is located in the secure and locked Server Room; access is limited to members of the Management Team and others only as authorized by the Superintendent or designee. The video surveillance equipment will be dedicated to that use only and under no circumstances will be used for any other duties.



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- 2. The school administrator and other members of the Management Team are authorized to monitor and operate the video surveillance equipment. Other staff members may be given authorization to monitor and operate the video surveillance equipment on an "as needed" basis. Video surveillance will be in effect 24 hours per day (with motion sensor).
- 3. Access will be given by authorized staff to any agency or individual, e.g. police, retained by the school district to use the information gathered for investigative purposes in order to perform duties related to their job.

Adopted: 7 December 2009

