

Damage or Theft Related to Buildings, Grounds or Equipment Policy 5230

April 9, 1990

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The Board of Education believes that children have a right to receive an education in an environment which is conducive to learning. Accordingly, it undertakes to provide students with the best possible facilities and equipment, consistent with sound financial management.

The School Act, Section 10, states:

“If property of a Board is destroyed or damaged, lost or converted by the intentional or negligent act of a student, the student and the student’s parents are jointly and serially liable to the Board in respect of the act of the student.”

Students committing acts of vandalism or theft will be subject to normal school discipline as outlined in Policy 5210 Student Behavior and Discipline in addition to the following guidelines.

Members of the public committing acts of vandalism and theft shall be pursued under the applicable statutes of British Columbia and in accordance with the following guidelines.

Guidelines

1. Vandalism, for the purposes of these regulations is defined as the act of willfully, or carelessly, mutilating or destroying any school property or equipment.
2. Theft, for the purposes of these regulations, is defined as the removing of any funds, school equipment, or materials without authorized permission.
3. All acts of theft or vandalism will be reported to the Maintenance Supervisor by the Principal of the school.
4. Where an act of vandalism or theft occurs during the regular school day or at a school sponsored event, the Principal or Teacher in charge shall contact the R.C.M.P.
5. Where an act of vandalism or theft committed outside the school day (including a break-in) is discovered this shall be reported to the R.C.M.P. immediately.

The following information is to be included in the report:

- a. time of discovery and by whom;
- b. estimated date and time of entry;
- c. estimated time and date of actual break-in or act of vandalism;
- d. list of articles damaged or missing with serial numbers, identifying marks and estimated value;
- e. estimate of damage to premises; and
- f. any other information that may be pertinent.

6. Perpetrators of vandalism or theft will be held financially responsible for all or parts of the costs of repairing or replacing items. The charges to be assessed will be determined by the Secretary-Treasurer.
7. Where the person responsible for the damage or theft is a student whose identity is known, the Principal shall inform the parent(s)/guardian(s) by letter that a charge for the cost of the damage will be made against them. The Principal will attach an invoice from the Secretary-Treasurer.
8. The Secretary-Treasurer will be responsible for the collection of monies from the responsible party.
9. If further action is deemed appropriate, the Secretary-Treasurer shall consult with the Superintendent to determine the nature of that action.