

VIDEO SURVEILLANCE

The Merton Community School District Board recognizes the district's responsibility to maintain order and discipline on school property and in school vehicles. The Board also desires to afford students and staff privacy in respect to the records maintained by the district. The Board recognizes the value of electronic surveillance systems in monitoring activity on school property and in school vehicles in furtherance of protecting the health, welfare and safety of its students, staff and property.

The Board, having carefully weighed and balanced the rights of privacy of students and staff against the district's duty to maintain order and discipline, finds that it is appropriate to provide for the use of video camera surveillance in its transportation vehicles and on school grounds as follows:

1. The District shall notify its students and staff that video surveillance may occur on any school property or on any transportation vehicle. The district shall incorporate said notice in the student handbook;
2. The use of video surveillance equipment on transportation vehicles shall be supervised by the District Administrator. School officials may utilize video surveillance in any place on school premises where staff or students lack a reasonable expectation of privacy. The use of video surveillance equipment on school grounds and on other district property shall be supervised and controlled by the building administrator or other responsible administrator;
3. The use of video recordings from surveillance equipment shall be subject to the other policies of the district including policies concerning the confidentiality of student and personnel records.