SUBJECT: Use of Surveillance Cameras in the School District

Part I

The Board of Education recognizes its responsibility to promote and foster school safety and ensure a safe and effective learning environment. After having carefully considered and balanced the rights of privacy with the District’s duty to promote discipline, health, welfare and safety of staff and students, as well as that of the general public who has occasion to use school facilities, the Board supports the use of surveillance cameras when necessary in its schools, buses and/or on school grounds. District surveillance cameras will only be utilized in public areas where there is no “reasonable expectation of privacy.” Audio recordings shall not be utilized by the School District officials for surveillance.

To further the Board’s objective, the School District’s Safety Team shall meet as appropriate and/or deemed necessary to develop, implement and review District and building level safety practices. The Team shall also make recommendations to the Superintendent regarding the implementation and use of surveillance cameras as authorized by the Board of Education. The Superintendent shall retain final decision-making authority regarding the recommendations of the Safety Team; and he/she shall notify the Board as to the procedures to be implemented with regard to the use of surveillance cameras by the School District.

Any video recording used for surveillance purposes in school buildings, school buses, and/or on school property, shall be the sole property of the District; and the Superintendent or his/her designee will be the custodian of such recordings. All video recordings will be stored in their original form and secured to avoid tampering and ensure confidentiality in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

Requests for viewing a video recording must be made in writing to the Superintendent or his/her designee and, if the request is granted, such viewing must occur in the presence of the District’s designated custodian of the recording. Under no circumstances will the District’s video recording be duplicated and/or removed from District premises unless in accordance with a court order and/or subpoena.
SUBJECT: Use of Surveillance Cameras in the School District (Continued)

Part II

Signage/Notification Regarding Use of Surveillance Cameras in School Buildings, School Buses and/or on School Grounds

Appropriate signage will be posted at entrances to the school campus and/or at major entrances into school buildings notifying students, staff and the general public of the District’s use of surveillance cameras.

Students and staff will receive additional notification, as appropriate, regarding the use of surveillance cameras in the schools, school buses and/or on school grounds. Such notification may include, but is not limited to, publication in the District calendar, employee handbook, and student handbook. Such notification does not preclude, as deemed appropriate by administration, the discussion of the use of surveillance cameras with staff and students to heighten awareness and help foster a sense of security.

Approved: Board of Education
February 11, 2004

Approved: Board of Education
June 11, 2008

Approved: Board of Education
September 12, 2012

Approved: Board of Education
June 15, 2016
NOTICE

For the safety of our students, staff and visitors, this facility employs video surveillance equipment for security purposes. This equipment may or may not be monitored at any time.

Williamson Central School District