

**Section 500 – Students**  
**Student Rights and Responsibilities**  
**Smoking, Drinking, Drugs**

**File: 504.15**

The Holt County School District No. 7 is committed to the philosophy that for the students attending school in this school district to compete successfully in the work environment outside of school they must first be provided the opportunity to receive the best education possible while attending school. To achieve this end the board of education is committed to the philosophy of maintaining a workplace which is drug free and instruct the staff to present an educational program which will inform students of the effects of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol on the human body.

School properties, including student lockers, may be inspected by school authorities in the interest of maintenance, health, and safety. Lockers, though assigned to students, are school property and may be inspected at any time. Any illegal items or items of contraband found during such search will be turned over to the school administration.

It is recommended that insofar as possible, the student or students to whom the locker is assigned be present for an inspection and permission be solicited. It is recommended that two members of the staff conduct an inspection together, particularly when the student is not present or does not give permission.

If upon reasonable basis for search, illegal items or items of contraband are found in a locker, the school administration may take whatever action it deems advisable, including suspension or expulsion. In the instance of a locker shared by two or more students, care must be taken so that an innocent locker mate is not wrongly punished.

Though criminal prosecution may never be the intent for a reasonable search by an administrator, the superintendent of schools may give illegal items or items of contraband to the legal authorities for whatever actions they may deem advisable.

Illegal items and items of contraband include, but are not restricted to, drugs, narcotics, alcoholic beverages, behavior-affecting substances, weapons, tobacco, poison, and missing or stolen property. Such items relate to the health, safety, and well-being of the school environment and need to be protected.

In all instances of reasonable searches resulting in the finding of illegal items or items of contraband, the names of the students will not be released to the press or to the general public. The parents of the students shall be contacted as soon as possible.

Tobacco. Shall be defined to mean any substance containing tobacco leaf, including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco or dipping tobacco, and electronic nicotine delivery devices. Students shall not possess tobacco at any time in the school building, on the school grounds, in school vehicles, or at school sponsored activities, home or away. Violation of this regulation will result in parental contact and disciplinary action.

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Legal Reference:           34 C.F.R. Pt. 86 (1996)  
                                  Neb. Statute 79-267

Cross Reference:           505    Student Discipline  
                                  508    Student Health and Well-Being