Sec. 1. SEARCHES OF STUDENTS

In the interest of promoting student safety and attempting to ensure that Midland Academy Charter is safe and drug free, school officials may, from time to time, conduct searches. Such searches are conducted without a warrant and as permitted by law.

Administrators, teachers and other professional personnel may question a student regarding the student's own conduct or the conduct of other students. In the context of school discipline, students have no claim to the right not to incriminate themselves.

Students shall be free from unreasonable searches and seizures by Midland Academy Charter officials. Midland Academy Charter officials may search a student's outer clothing, pockets, or property by establishing reasonable cause or securing the student's voluntary consent.

A search is reasonable if it meets both of the following criteria:

1. The action is justified at the inception; i.e., the school official has reasonable grounds for suspecting that the search will uncover evidence of a rule violation or a criminal violation.
2. The scope of the search is reasonably related to the circumstances that justified the search in the first place such as the extent of the search, the objectives of the search, the age and sex of the student, and the nature of the infraction.

Sec. 2. INTERROGATIONS

a) *By School Officials*

Administrators, teachers, and other professional personnel may question a student regarding the student's own conduct or the conduct of other students. In the context of school discipline, students have no claim to the right not to incriminate themselves.

b) *By Police or Other Authorities*

When a representative of the Department of Family and Protective Services or another lawful authority requests to question or interview a student at school as part of a child abuse investigation, the Principal or designee shall cooperate fully with the official's requests regarding the conditions of the interview or questioning.

When law enforcement officers or other lawful authorities request to question or interview a student at school for any purpose other than a child abuse investigation, the following guidelines shall apply:

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1. The Principal or designee shall verify and record the identity of the officer or other authority and request an explanation of the need to question or interview the student at school.
2. The Principal or designee ordinarily shall make reasonable efforts to notify the student's parent or other person having lawful control of the student. If the interviewer raises what the Principal or designee considers to be a valid objection to the notification, the parent or other person having lawful control of the student shall not be notified.
3. The Principal or a designee ordinarily shall be present during the questioning or interview. If the interviewer raises what the Principal or designee considers to be a valid objection to a third party's presence, the interview shall be conducted without that person's presence.

Before a student at school is arrested or taken into custody by a law enforcement officer or other legally authorized person, the Principal or designee shall verify the official's identity. To the best of his or her ability, the Principal or designee shall verify the official's authority to take custody of the student and then shall deliver over the student.

The Principal or designee shall immediately notify the Superintendent and ordinarily shall notify the parent or other person having lawful control of the student. If the officer or other authorized person raises what the Principal or designee considers to be a valid objection to notifying the parent or other person having lawful control of the student at that time, the Principal or designee shall not notify the parent or other person having lawful control of the student.

Sec. 3. DESKS AND LOCKERS

Desks, lockers, and similar items are the property of Midland Academy Charter and are provided for student use as a matter of convenience. Midland Academy Charter will make periodic inspections of lockers and desks at any time, with or without notice or student consent. Midland Academy Charter officials will remove any item that violates Midland Academy Charter policy or that may potentially be dangerous.

Students have full responsibility for the security of their lockers and desks, and shall be held responsible for any prohibited items found during a search. The student's parent shall be notified if any prohibited articles or materials are found in a student's desk or locker, or on the student's person, as a result of a search conducted in accordance with this policy.

Sec. 4. VEHICLES

Vehicles parked on Midland Academy Charter property and property under Midland Academy Charter's control are under the jurisdiction of Midland Academy Charter and may be searched at any time if reasonable suspicion exists to believe that the search will result in evidence that school rules or other laws have been violated. If a vehicle subject to search is locked, the student shall be asked to unlock the vehicle and consent to a search of the vehicle. If the student refuses to permit the vehicle to be searched, Midland Academy Charter may contact the student's parents, and/or

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law enforcement officials. A student may be held responsible for and in possession of prohibited items found in his or her vehicle parked on Midland Academy Charter's property or at a school-related event.

Sec. 5. USE OF TRAINED DOGS

Midland Academy Charter may use or contract for specially trained nonaggressive dogs to sniff out and alert Midland Academy Charter officials to the presence of concealed, prohibited or illegal items, including drugs and alcohol. Such visits to Midland Academy Charter may be unannounced. The dogs shall be used to sniff vacant classrooms, vacant common areas, the areas around student lockers, and the areas around vehicles parked on Midland Academy Charter property. The dogs shall not be asked to alert on students. If a dog alerts to a locker, a vehicle, or an item in a classroom, it may be searched by Midland Academy Charter officials.

Sec. 6. PARENT NOTIFICATION

The student's parent or guardian shall be notified if any prohibited articles or materials are found in a student's locker, in a student's vehicle parked on school property, or on the student's person, as a result of a search conducted in accordance with this policy.

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