
Purpose

To define the role and use of handheld metal detectors by school personnel.

Definitions

Handheld metal detectors – a handheld metal detector is a portable security tool that uses an electromagnetic field to find hidden metallic objects like weapons, contraband, or lost items, alerting operators with sound, vibration, or lights when metal is detected by disrupting the field.

Policy Statement

The Board of Education authorizes the use of handheld metal detectors by school personnel in accordance with applicable laws and regulations, and Allegany County Public Schools (ACPS) administrative procedures. Metal detectors shall be used by school personnel when there is a reasonable belief that a student possesses a metal object whose possession violates Maryland criminal law or the rules and regulations of ACPS or its schools, or when the use is part of a school safety plan made in response to a reportable offense. All school personnel who operate metal detectors shall be properly trained in their use. Nothing in this policy or in the Superintendent's adopted procedures shall be construed to restrict law enforcement officers from carrying out their lawful duties on school property in accordance with applicable law.

Related Policy and Regulation

ACPS Student Interrogations / Searches / Arrests Policy JIH and Regulation JIH-R.

This policy shall be effective July 1, 2026.

Legal Reference	Policy History	Adopted	Reviewed	Revised
Legal 7-308 Maryland Annotated Code Legal 13A.08.01.11 Legal 13A.08.01.14 Code of Maryland Regulations				March 10, 2026, 1 st Reading April 14, 2026, 2 nd Reading