



*Expanding Horizons...
Individualizing Excellence*

Lower Moreland Township School District Canine Search Program Procedures

Within the scope of Board Policy 226 (Search and Seizure), the School Board of the Lower Moreland Township School District decided to implement a canine search protocol beginning with the 2015-2016 school year for Lower Moreland High School and Murray Avenue School.

Below are the procedures that will be followed by the Canine Search Program:

- 1) The dog handler will randomly select the classrooms to be searched and the area of the parking lot (if it is a High School search) from notecards.
- 2) The search will last for 1 period (45 minutes). During that time, the school will be on internal lockdown. No students will be allowed to leave their classrooms, except as directed by the Principal or Assistant Principal (AP) during the search.
- 3) Students and teachers will be directed to exit the classroom and leave all belongings behind. (including backpacks, purses, phones, gym bags, etc.) The students will not come in direct contact with the dog.
- 4) The Principal or AP will stay in the room while the search is conducted so they can attest to what they have observed.
- 5) If the dog is alerted on a bag, an administrator will conduct a search.
- 6) The search will be either founded or unfounded. If unfounded, the Principal or AP will call the parent to explain the process and the student will go back to class. If founded, all usual procedures for illegal substance violation will be followed.
- 7) After the building and campus search is complete, an email blast will be sent to all parents/guardians informing them that a random search was conducted.

Thank you for your anticipated cooperation with the Canine Search Procedure as we look to keep our students safe and healthy. If you have any questions, please contact:

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