

## CANINE DETECTION POLICY

The School Committee recognizes that canine detection of controlled substances/narcotics can be a valuable crime prevention, law enforcement aid used for promoting a safe school environment and evidence detection.

The Superintendent of Schools shall have available, in conformance with state and federal law and regulations, the option of utilizing canine detection as a component of the School System's controlled substances/narcotics prevention/enforcement efforts.

The Standard Operating Procedure shall apply to all Nantucket Public School personnel, students, visitors and property.

All parties will be duly notified of this policy and its procedures through appropriate handbooks, manuals, handouts and postings.

Any person found in possession of controlled substances/narcotics will be, in accordance with school system policies and procedures, subject to school action and prosecution under Massachusetts General Law.

### **Legal Reference**

School students, personnel and visitors are covered by the protections of the Fourth Amendment to the United States Constitution and Article 14 of the Massachusetts Declaration of Rights. Searches of students and their possessions must not be unreasonable and are legal as determined by case law including *New Jersey v. T.L.O.*, 469 U.S. 325, 336-337 (1985), *Commonwealth v. Carey*, 407 Mass. 528, 531 (1990) *Commonwealth v. Carey*, 407 Mass. at 531-532; *New Jersey v. T.L.O.*, 469 U.S. at 337 n.5, *New Jersey v. T.L.O.*, 469 U. S. at 341-342.