

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

SECTION: PUPILS
TITLE: Care of School Property
ADOPTED: April 27, 1981
REVISED: September 27, 1999

224 CARE OF SCHOOL PROPERTY

Purpose

The Board believes that the schools should help students learn to respect property and develop feelings of pride in community institutions. The *Board also recognizes the relationship between effective use of property and School District financial solvency.*

Authority

The Board charges each student with responsibility for the proper care of school property and the school *textbooks*, supplies, and equipment entrusted to his/her use.

Students are responsible for the care, maintenance and timely return of all textbooks. Schools shall require students and/or parents to sign a compact acknowledging their responsibility for the care and prompt return of textbooks lent to them by the school.

Students and/or their parents will be assessed penalties for lost or damaged textbooks. Imposition of one or more of the following penalties is permitted:- a charge for replacement of the textbook; requiring the student to perform a prescribed number of hours of school service; delayed receipt of a report card; and/or loss of privileges such as participation in sports or other extra-curricular activities, proms and other special events or graduation-related activities.

Students who willfully cause damage to school property shall be subject to disciplinary measures. Students and others who damage or deface school property may be prosecuted and punished under law. Parents and guardians of students shall be held accountable for student actions. The Board may report to the appropriate authorities any student whose damage of school property has been serious or chronic in nature.

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent shall develop procedures to implement this policy which include rules for the safekeeping and accounting of *property*; preparation of a schedule of fines *or*

repayment for lost or damaged property; and a report to the Board on the nature and incidence of vandalism. This report shall include the number and kind of incident, the cost of vandalism to the district, and such related facts and comments as the Superintendent may wish to make.

Principals may authorize or allow parents/guardians to review report cards in the school setting in order to provide notice and facilitate resolution of students' failure to return or account for assigned books.

Legal References:

- 1.State School Code Sections 777, 801, 1338