

Use of Surveillance Cameras in Schools & Sites

Public Board Meeting
March 10, 2021



Our Presentation – Learning Intentions

- Speak to the difference between policy and regulations.
- Remind the Board about our policy and key aspects.
- Advise on where we install and how we protect privacy.
- Inform the Board about installations – what processes do we use to decide?
- Remind the Board about our intentions – why do we use cameras?
- Where do we have cameras installed?
- How many cameras do we have installed?
- How do we work to maintain our installations?
- What challenges are we facing?
- Governance questions for the Board?

Policy 7282 - Surveillance

1. PHILOSOPHY

The Surrey Board of Education recognizes that privacy is a fundamental value in a democratic society and the practical use of surveillance, must be guided by a commitment to the privacy of students, staff, volunteers and the general public.

2. INTENT

Surveillance will be authorized where reasonable or necessary to enhance the safety of students, staff, volunteers and the general public, or to protect property.

The operation of video surveillance is subject to privacy considerations and applicable statutory limits and requirements.

Regulation 7282.1 - Surveillance

Regulation language provides guidance on:

- Use of surveillance cameras & equipment
- Installation & operation of equipment
- Security & retention of video files
- Access by parents, guardians, students or employees
- Notification to staff, students, volunteers and the public
- Annual review

Policy & Regulation Updates

- Staff to review / refresh of language to ensure compliance with:
 - Section 74.01 of the School Act
Authorizes and sets out procedures for the installation and use of video surveillance
 - Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA)
Surveillance recordings are governed by provisions of FIPPA
- Board's governance recommendations:
 - Provided during/after March 10 Board Meeting
- Will present to Policy Committee

Internal Protocol for Installations & Upgrades

- Key stakeholders:
 - Principal
 - Assistant Superintendents
 - Assistant Secretary Treasurer
 - Corporate Services
 - District Facilities Centre
 - Information and Management Systems
 - Purchasing
 - Safe Schools

Internal Protocol for Installations & Upgrades

- Principal prepares request in accordance with Policy & Regulation
- Assistant Superintendent reviews request & forwards to AST
- Assistant Secretary Treasurer coordinates approval & installation:
 - Review request to ensure compliance with Policy / Regulation
 - Seeks approval from Executive and if approved:
 - Secures budget capacity
 - Communicates with key departments (DFC, IMS, CS)
 - Communicates with Purchasing & DFC to initiate installation

Placement of Cameras

- Interior – high traffic areas, office, exits
- Exterior – entrances, perimeter areas
- Interior or Exterior – “problem areas”
 - Theft, vandalism, other incidents

School & Site Installations

- Secondary
 - All schools -- varying quality / quantity of equipment
- Learning Centres
 - One LC with cameras -- exterior only
- Elementary
 - One school with exterior camera at front entrance – no images recorded
 - One school with two exterior cameras facing back courtyard
 - Small number of schools with a few interior/exterior cameras – none operational
- DEC / REC / DFC – good coverage

Status of Secondary School Installations

- Number of camera locations at secondary sites
 - Interior cameras – range from 3 to 20+
 - Exterior cameras – range from 1 to 10+
 - Newest installations have good coverage
- Age / quality of systems at various sites:
 - More than half of sites have systems 10+ years old

Status of Secondary School Installations

- Newest sites:
 - Salish – 27 interior & 19 exterior cameras
 - Grandview – 23 interior & 27 exterior cameras
- Recent upgrades – server equipment and/or cameras:
 - Frank Hurt
 - LA Matheson
 - Princess Margaret
 - Clayton Heights
 - Enver Creek
 - Fraser Heights
- Other secondary schools
 - Outdated servers and/or cameras
 - Cabling may require upgrade / expansion

Challenges & Opportunities

- Number of camera locations at secondary sites
 - Expansion needed at many sites to provide good coverage
- Age / quality of servers and cameras
 - Many sites require upgrades
- Installations at some/all elementary schools?
- No standing capital or operating budget for:
 - New / upgraded cabling or equipment installations
 - Dedicated staff

Board Governance Questions to Consider as we Proceed to the Policy Committee

- Do you believe our direction on protection of privacy and the careful use of surveillance for safety is appropriate?
- Do you encourage us to expand to elementary schools or to remain focused on our secondary schools?
- We only have cameras located at one Learning Centre – should they all have cameras or should we eliminate them?