

Bristol Tennessee City Schools

Descriptor Term:

Care of School Property

Descriptor Code:

6.311

Issued Date:

01/15/18

Rescinds:

8.121

Issued:

05/18/15

Students shall help maintain the school environment, preserve school property, and exercise care while using school facilities and equipment.

All district employees shall report all damage or loss of school property to the principal or designee immediately after such damage or loss is discovered. The principal or designee shall make a full and complete investigation of any instance of damage or loss of school property. The investigation shall be carried out in cooperation with law enforcement officials when appropriate.

When the person causing damage or loss has been identified and the costs of repair or replacement have been determined, the director of schools shall take steps to recover these costs. This may include recommending the filing of a civil complaint in court to recover damages. If the responsible person is a minor, recovery will be sought from the minor's parent or guardian.¹

In addition, the district may withhold the grades, diploma, and/or transcript of the student responsible for vandalism or theft or otherwise incurring any debt to a school until the student or the student's parent/ guardian has paid for the damages.² If a student and/or their parent dispute damages or the amount of damages, the director of schools or designee shall meet with them to discuss the matter. Within five (5) days of the meeting, the director of schools or designee shall notify the student and their parent of the final decision.

When the minor and parent are unable to pay for the damages, the director of schools or designee may meet with the parent in an attempt to reach an agreement. Upon payment or completion of an agreement between the director and a parent, the student's grades, diploma, and/or transcripts shall be released. **Such sanctions shall not be imposed if the student is not at fault.**

Legal References

1. [TCA 37-10-101](#)
2. [TRR/MS 0520-01-02-.16\(2\)\(b\)](#)

Cross References

Visitors to the School 1.501
Safety 3.201
Security 3.205

Community Use of School Facilities 3.206
Student Fees and Fines 6.709