

PARENTAL LIABILITY FOR VANDALISM

The school property held in trust by this Board of Education represents a substantial investment of the taxpayers of the school district; liability for the willful and malicious destruction of that property should be borne by those directly and indirectly responsible.

The Board further believes that parents or legal guardians are ultimately responsible for the supervision and discipline of pupils and that the knowledge that they are vicariously liable for the acts of their children and wards will encourage parents or legal guardians to exercise that responsibility more vigorously.

Where any property, real or personal, owned by this Board has been willfully and maliciously damaged by any minor, whether or not the person is enrolled in this district, the Board shall bring civil action against the parent or legal guardian having legal custody and control of the person at the time the damage was caused, for the full amount of the damage.

N.J.S.A. 18A:37-3

Cross reference: Policy Guide No. 5131.2, 5132

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