

Public Schools of Brookline
Exterior Surveillance Camera Policy
First Reading: May 1, 2025
Second Reading: May 22, 2025
Third Reading and Possible Vote: June 12, 2025

The Public Schools of Brookline seeks to promote school safety and a secure educational environment. Balancing individuals' privacy rights with the district's duty to ensure safety, the district reserves the right to use surveillance cameras, when necessary, in outdoor areas of school grounds and facilities.

Purpose of Surveillance Cameras

Surveillance cameras will be used to assist in:

- Ensuring the safety of students and staff.
- Locating missing students.
- Deterring illegal activity and incidents that threaten the health, safety, or welfare of members of the school community.
- Preventing vandalism and property damage.
- Monitoring suspicious activity.
- Coordinating emergency responses.

Implementation

- Cameras will only be placed in outdoor areas of school property where there is no reasonable expectation of privacy. This also can include areas adjacent to the schools that are on a public way that are regularly traversed in the course of a school day by students and staff.
- Cameras will not be monitored continuously but footage will be reviewed as needed. Normally, recordings should be reviewed only in response to specific incidents involving suspected violations of law, or incidents that threatened the health, safety, or welfare of members of the school community. However, in an active situation presenting a clear and present danger to the campus, the system could be used to monitor events in real time.
- Cameras will not record audio.
- Facial recognition, automatic tracking, and other surveillance technologies will not be used without the express consent of the Brookline School Committee.
- The Superintendent shall ensure that proper procedures are in place and are followed regarding use, viewing, disclosure, retention, disposal and security of video recordings or photographs from security cameras in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.