

Weapons

The Board believes weapons, other dangerous objects, and look-a-likes in school district facilities cause material and substantial disruption to the school environment or present a threat to the health and safety of students, employees, and visitors on the school district premises or properties within the jurisdiction of the school district. School district facilities/vehicles are not an appropriate place for weapons, dangerous objects, and/or look-alikes. Weapons, other dangerous objects, and look-a-likes shall be taken from students and others who bring them on to the school district properties or onto property within the jurisdiction of the school district (“school property”) or from students who are within the control of the school district.

Parents of students found to possess weapons, dangerous objects, and/or look-a-likes on school property shall be notified of the incident. Possession or confiscation of weapons, dangerous objects, and/or look-alikes will be reported to law enforcement officials, and students will be subject to disciplinary action, including but not limited to, suspension or expulsion.

Students bringing firearms to school, or onto school buses/vehicles, or on to school property, or knowingly possessing firearms on school properties will be expelled for not less than one year. The Superintendent has the authority to recommend this expulsion requirement be modified for students on a case-by-case basis. For purposes of this portion of this policy, the term “firearm” includes, but is not limited to, any weapon which is designed to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive, the frame or receiver of any such weapon, a muffler or silencer for such a weapon, or any explosive, incendiary or poison gas, or otherwise defined by applicable law.

Weapons under the control of law enforcement officials or other individuals specifically authorized by the Board are exempt from this policy. Students and individuals approved in writing by the Superintendent who are actively engaging in a school district approved firearms safety course, hunter education course or shooting sports activity are exempt from this policy. The superintendent will develop an administrative process or procedures to implement the policy and communicate with law enforcement relevant exemptions to this policy as appropriate.

Weapons – Look-Alike

Student is in possession of or uses look-alike weapons, which are items resembling an actual weapon or dangerous object, including, but not limited to, squirt guns, water rifles or pistols, slingshots, toy guns, toy grenades, toy knives or swords, and other similar items.

The principal shall have the authority to determine the extent and nature of the disciplinary action based upon the student's age, the actions of the student in possessing and using the look-alike weapon, the student's intent, and the nature of the look-alike weapon's resemblance to a real weapon.

Weapons - Firearms - Use and Possession

Possession or use of firearms on school property or at school events is strictly prohibited. Any student found to be in possession of or who uses a firearm on school property or at a school event shall be immediately referred to law enforcement and, pursuant to federal law, expelled from school for not less than twelve months. The Superintendent has the authority to recommend this expulsion requirement be modified for students on a case-by-case basis.

A firearm is defined as

(A) any weapon which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive, including but not limited to, a shotgun, a short-barreled shotgun, rifle, short-barreled rifle, ammunition, armor piercing ammunition, machine gun, semi-automatic rifle, handgun, pistol, revolver, starter gun, weapons made from 3D printers;

(B) The frame or receiver of any such weapon;

(C) Any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; or

(D) Any destructive device.

A "destructive device" is

(1) any explosive, incendiary or poison gas, including but not limited to, a bomb, grenade, rocket having propellant charge of more than four ounces, missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than one-quarter ounce, mine or similar device; (2) any type of weapon which will, or which may be readily converted to, expel a projectile by the action of an explosive or other propellant, and which has any barrel with a bore of more than one-half inch in diameter; and (3) any combination of parts either designed or intended for use in converting any device into a destructive device and from which a destructive device may be readily assembled.

This section does not apply to:

- Student who possesses firearms under the authority of a school district, such as for demonstration, rifle competition, or firearms safety courses; or
- When it is determined by the principal, in consultation with the superintendent that based on the student's age and intent, that expulsion is not appropriate under the circumstances.

Dangerous Weapon (other than firearm) – Use/Possession

Student is in possession of or uses a dangerous weapon or threatens to use a dangerous weapon while having the apparent ability to do so. A "dangerous weapon" is any instrument or device that is not a firearm, designed primarily for use in inflicting death or injury upon another. "Dangerous weapons"

include but are not limited to: any offensive weapon, dagger, razor, razor blade, or similar instruments with sharp cutting edges, stiletto, switchblade knife, ballistic knife, knife, any portable weapon directing an electric current, impulse, wave or beam that produces a high-voltage pulse designed to immobilize a person, chains, pipes, ice picks, nun chuck sticks, brass knuckles, throwing stars, billy clubs, shanks, and weapons made from 3D printers.

The principal, in consultation with the Superintendent, shall have the authority to determine the extent and nature of the disciplinary action based upon the student's age, the actions of the student in possessing and using the weapon, and the student's expressed or apparent intent. The following may be taken into consideration in determining disciplinary action:

Level 1: A student is in possession of a weapon but has no intention of using it or displaying it in a threatening manner. (e.g., hunting knife in a student's backpack).

Level 2: A student is in possession of a weapon, is well aware that it's a weapon, and has intent to use it or threatens to use it.

Level 3: A student is in possession of a weapon and either uses it for harm or displays it in a threatening manner.

If Level 2 or 3 apply, then in addition to any disciplinary action by the school, the student will be referred to law enforcement. If Level 1 applies, law enforcement will be consulted.

Adopted: October 24, 1994
Revised: September 14, 2020
Revised: September 12, 2022
Revised: July 15, 2024