

Weapons on School Property

Definitions

- *Firearm* is defined in accordance with 18 U.S.C. 921.
- *Weapon* includes, but is not limited to any knife, razor, ice pick, explosive, smoke bomb, incendiary device, firearm, slingshot, bludgeon, brass knuckles or artificial knuckles of any kind, or any object that can reasonably be considered a weapon, dangerous instrument, or look-alike.

Prohibitions

No student will **knowingly** possess, handle, carry, or transmit any weapon or dangerous objects or look-a-likes, in any school building, on school grounds, in any school vehicle, or at any school-sponsored activity.

Disciplinary Consequences

1. **Weapon Other than a Firearm**
Violation of this policy will result in disciplinary action up to and including suspension or expulsion. Knowingly bringing a weapon other than a firearm to school will require that **proceedings** for the suspension for up to 10 days and/or expulsion for up to 12 months be initiated immediately in accordance with the district's suspension and expulsion policy. Decisions regarding the duration of the suspension/expulsion shall be based on the following criteria:
 - a. Whether the student knowingly violated the policy.
 - b. The totality of the circumstances, including the severity of the incident and the degree of endangerment of other students and staff.
 - c. The age, grade level, and disciplinary record of the student. As part of this assessment, administration shall also consider the student's ability to anticipate how the safety of others could have been impacted by the presence of the weapon.
2. **Firearm**
Bringing a firearm to school will require that the District immediately initiate proceedings for the expulsion of the student involved. If the student is found to have had a firearm on campus, the student shall be expelled for a minimum of one calendar year in accordance with the district's suspension and expulsion policy. The Superintendent may modify the length of a firearms-related expulsion on a case-by-case basis based on the following criteria:
 - a. The totality of the circumstances, including the severity of the incident and the degree of endangerment of other students and staff.
 - b. The age and grade level of the student.
 - c. The prior disciplinary history of the student being expelled.

- d. Relevant factors which contributed to the student's decision to possess a firearm in violation of this policy.
- e. The recency and severity of prior acts resulting in suspension or expulsion.
- f. Whether the optional provision of educational services in an alternative setting is a viable alternative to modifying the duration of the expulsion.
- g. Input, if any, provided by licensed professionals (psychologists, psychiatrists, counselors) as to whether the expelled student would place himself/herself or others at risk by returning to the school prior to the expiration of the expulsion period.

Notice to Parents

Parents will be notified and all weapons, dangerous objects, or look-a-likes will be confiscated and may be turned over to the student's parents or to law enforcement officials at the discretion of the administration. Firearms will be confiscated and turned over to law enforcement.

Students in Special Education

A student who is defined as having a disability under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) who has brought a weapon to school shall be handled in accordance with IDEA regulations. The District shall make manifestation determinations, disciplinary decisions, and placement decisions of such students in accordance with IDEA regulations.

Nonapplicable Provisions

This policy does not apply to students enrolled and participating in a school-sponsored shooting sport, provided that the student informs the school principal of the student's participation and the student complies with all requirements set by the principal regarding the safe handling and storage of the firearm. The principal may allow authorized persons to display weapons, other dangerous objects or look-a-likes for educational purposes. Such a display will be exempt from this policy.

Complementary Documents

- FFK, Suspension and Expulsion
- FFK-BR, Suspension and Expulsion Regulations
- FFK-E1, Suggested Procedure for Conducting an Expulsion Hearing
- FFK-E2, Suspension and Expulsion for Special Education Students