

WEAPONS & DANGEROUS INSTRUMENTS

The Governing Board recognizes that students and staff have the right to a safe and secure campus free from physical and psychological harm and desires to protect them from the dangers presented by firearms and other weapons.

(cf. [0450](#) - Comprehensive Safety Plan) (cf. [5116.1](#) – Intra-district Open Enrollment)

(cf. [5131](#) - Conduct)

Possession of Weapons

The Board prohibits any student from possessing weapons, imitation firearms, or other dangerous instruments, as defined in law and administrative regulation, in school buildings, on school grounds or buses, at school-related or school-sponsored activities away from school, or while going to or coming from school.

Under the power granted to the Board to protect the safety of students, staff, and others on district property and to maintain order and discipline in the schools, any school employee is authorized to confiscate any prohibited weapon, imitation firearm, or dangerous instrument from any student on school grounds.

A student possessing or threatening others with any weapon, dangerous instrument, or imitation firearm shall be subject to suspension and/or expulsion in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulations.

(cf. [5144](#) - Discipline) (cf. [5144.1](#) - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

(cf. [5144.2](#) - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process (Individuals with Disabilities))

The principal or designee shall notify law enforcement authorities when any student possesses a firearm, explosive, or other prohibited weapon or dangerous instrument without permission, sells or furnishes a firearm, or commits any act of assault with a firearm or other weapon. (Education Code [48902](#); Penal Code [245](#), [626.9](#), [626.10](#); 20 USC 7961) (cf. [3515.2](#) - Disruptions)

Possession of Pepper Spray

To prevent potential misuse that may harm students or staff, students are prohibited from carrying tear gas or tear gas weapons such as pepper spray on campus or at school activities.

Reporting of Dangerous Objects

The Board encourages students to promptly report the presence of weapons, injurious objects, or other suspicious activity to school authorities. The identity of a student who reports such activity shall remain confidential to the extent permitted by law. (cf. [5125](#) - Student Records)

The Superintendent or designee shall develop strategies designed to facilitate student reporting of the presence of injurious objects on school grounds, such as tip hotlines, electronic transmissions, or other methods that preserve the student's anonymity. Incident reports and records shall not identify the student who reported the possession. The Superintendent or designee also shall inform staff, students, and parents/guardians that students who report the presence of injurious objects on school campuses are to be protected and their identity shielded.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

[35291](#) Governing board to prescribe rules for discipline of the schools

[48900](#) Grounds for suspension/expulsion

[48902](#) Notification of law enforcement authorities

[48915](#) Required recommendation for expulsions

[48916](#) Readmission

[49330-49335](#) Injurious objects

PENAL CODE

[245](#) Assault with deadly weapon

[417.4](#) Imitation firearm; drawing or exhibiting

[626.9](#) Gun-Free School Zone Act of 1995

[626.10](#) Dirks, daggers, knives, razor or stun gun; bringing or possessing in school

[653k](#) Switchblade knife

16100-17350 Definitions

22810-23025 Tear gas weapon (pepper spray)

25200-25225 Firearms, access to children

[30310](#) Prohibition against ammunition on school grounds

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

[6301-7941](#) No Child Left Behind Act, especially:

7961 Gun-Free Schools Act

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Safe Schools: Strategies for Governing Boards to Ensure Student Success, Third Edition, October 2011

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION COMMUNICATIONS

0401.01 Protecting Student Identification in Reporting Injurious Objects

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Guidance Concerning State and Local Responsibilities Under the Gun-Free Schools Act, January 2004

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Department of Education, Safe Schools: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/lc/ss>

National Alliance for Safe Schools: <http://www.safeschools.org>

National School Safety Center: <http://www.schoolsafety.us>

U.S. Department of Education, Office of Safe and Drug Free

Schools: <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osdfs>

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