

Policies of the Board of Education

Series 400: Students

Series 700: Support Services

WEAPONS ON SCHOOL PREMISES

443.7/723.5

No person shall possess, be armed with, store, or use a firearm or other weapon, whether unconcealed or concealed, in or on grounds of a school, on school premises, in or on school buses or district-owned vehicles, or at school-related activities, unless otherwise specifically permitted by law. This prohibition applies to all students, employees, parents, guardians, or other visitors at all times. Although the Wisconsin Carrying concealed Weapon (CCW) Law generally allows individuals with training and registration to carry concealed weapons in some public places, there are specific laws that make such concealed carry illegal when it occurs with or around schools in which education of children occurs and on other property owned or operated by the District, and the District is not required to post signs in order of such prohibition of firearms and weapons (concealed or otherwise) to apply in such locations. This policy does not apply to law enforcement officers who are acting in their official capacities or duties and does not apply to the extent such possession is specifically permitted under state or federal law.

A weapon is any object that by its design and/or use can cause bodily injury or property damage, or any component of such an object. This includes, but is not limited to guns, including BB and pellet firing guns, firearm silencers, knives, razors, karate sticks, nunchaku, metal knuckles, chains, pepper spray/mace and other similar propellants, and similar items or destructive devices such as explosives or fire bombs. A weapon is also defined as any facsimile or look-a-like of a weapon or firearm such as a toy, starter pistol, or other object that can be perceived as an actual firearm. A weapon also may include physical actions or oral or written statements, which lead others to reasonably believe, or are calculated to induce a belief, that a weapon is present.

Weapons may be allowed on school premises for purposes of demonstration or educational presentations with approval of the Building Principal in consultation with the district Administrator (District Approval).

Starter guns may be possessed and used at school-sponsored events by authorized school staff or officials with District approval.

This policy is not meant to interfere with instruction or use of appropriate equipment and tools by employees and students. Such equipment, when properly used and stored, shall not be considered a weapon for purposes of this policy. However, when authorized instructional and work equipment tools are used in a potentially dangerous or threatening manner, the guidelines and consequences of this policy will take effect.

Any student violating this policy shall be subject to penalties outlined in state and federal law including possible expulsion, and mandatory referral for expulsion from school for possession of a firearm. Parents/guardians and law enforcement officials will be notified when this policy is violated. Weapons will be confiscated by the District or by law enforcement officials, as appropriate.

Employees violating this policy shall be disciplined or discharged in accordance with employee policies and agreements and referred to law enforcement officials.

Any other person violating this policy shall also be referred to law enforcement officials.

Law enforcement officers will be contacted in any situation involving a weapon which presents an immediate threat to safety. If the situation does not allow an opportunity to contact law enforcement officials immediately, school staff and administration shall attempt to control the situation in accordance with applicable emergency procedures until law enforcement officials can be summoned.

Signs detailing the prohibitions contained in this policy shall be posted at each entrance to District facilities.

Legal Ref.: Sections 120.13(1) Wisconsin Statutes
 165.72
 941.235
 948.60
 948.605
 948.61
 18 U.S.C. 921(a)(3) Gun-Free Schools Act

Cross Ref.: 447.3, Student Suspension
 447.4, Student Expulsions
 447.5, Discipline of Students with Disabilities
 723-Rule, Emergency Plan Procedures

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Waunakee Community School District