

## **POST FALLS SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 273**

Series 500: Student Policy: Conduct/Discipline

Policy No. 504.12

Policy Title: Weapons Prohibited on School Property

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In order to protect the safety and well being of students and staff, the Post Falls School District prohibits the unauthorized possession, use or storing of weapons or other objects/substances used as weapons on or in school grounds, buildings, vehicles, equipment or property or while riding in any school provided transportation and for the unauthorized possession and/or use of the same at a school sponsored activity posing a threat to the health and safety of the student or others or disruptive to the educational process. It is prohibited for any student to threaten by word or act to use a firearm or other deadly or dangerous weapon to do violence to any other person on school grounds

Possession and/or use of such weapons or other objects/substances used as weapons or objects/substances capable of being used as weapons on or in school grounds, buildings, vehicles, equipment or property or while riding in any school provided transportation or at any school sponsored activity without prior written permission of school officials, will result in expulsion from school for a period of not less than one (1) year, subject only to discretion of the Board of Trustees as provided by law on a case by case basis.

The District will not admit, prior to the end of the one (1) year expulsion period, any student who has been expelled from another district for violating the Gun Free Schools Act of 1994 or corollary state law. Should any student wish to challenge that decision (s)he will be entitled to a hearing before the appropriate administrator with the right to appeal the decision to the Board of Trustees.

Possession of weapons may be authorized in exceptional circumstances by school officials (the superintendent, assistant superintendent or building principal) when it is reasonably determined by the school official that such authorization will not impair the safety and well being of students and staff as, for example, when the principal or appropriate administrator, such as the assistant superintendent or superintendent, has approved the display of weapons for educational purposes in which case the weapons shall be safely displayed by a teacher or other school personnel. Such authorization must be in writing and must be dated and signed by the school official prior to bringing the weapon onto school property or possessing, using or storing the weapons as otherwise prohibited herein. The authorizing school official shall implement safety precautions during the period of time that the weapon may be on school property or possessed in the manner otherwise prohibited herein.

This policy shall not apply to district security officers or campus supervisors while on special duty as assigned by the administration or to officers of the law who have a duty to preserve public safety, maintain public order or to make arrests for offenses while in the performance of such duty.

Weapons are identified as follows:

- a. A starter gun, which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive;
- b. The frame or receiver of any weapon;
- c. Any firearm muffler or firearm silencer;

- d. Any destructive device, which includes any explosive, incendiary or poison gas bomb, grenade, rocket having a propellant charge of more than four (4) ounces, missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than one quarter ( 3 ) ounce, mine, or device similar to any of the devices herein described;
- e. Any type of weapon which will or 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 (1/2) inch in diameter.
- f. 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 readily be assembled.
- g. "Weapon" shall include, with limitation, any firearm, stun gun, starter gun, rifle, shotgun, muzzleloader gun, crossbow, mace or personal protection spray devices, look-a-like items or replicas of weapons displayed or represented as real weapons, any dirk knife, bowie knife, dagger, any pocket or other knife used or possessed to intimidate, any metal knuckles, bombs, explosives or fireworks.

Legal References: IC 18-3302D et seq, Gun Free Schools Act of 1994

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