

**Houston County Board of Education**

Monitoring: <b>Review: Annually, in March</b>	Descriptor Term:  <b>Zero Tolerance Offenses</b>	Descriptor Code: <b>6.309</b>	Issued Date: <b>06/13/22</b>
		Rescinds:	Issued: <b>01/09/95; 05/11/15; 05/13/19; 06/14/21</b>

In order to ensure a safe and secure learning environment, the following offenses shall not be tolerated:

**WEAPONS & DANGEROUS INSTRUMENTS**

Students shall not possess, handle, transmit, use, or attempt to use any dangerous weapon on school buses/vehicles, on school property, or while on school sponsored outings.<sup>1</sup>

Dangerous weapons for the purposes of this policy shall include, but are not limited to, a firearm or anything manifestly designed, made, or adapted for the purpose of inflicting death or serious bodily injury, or anything that in the manner of its use or intended use is capable of causing death or serious bodily injury.<sup>2</sup>

Violators of this section shall be subject to suspension and/or expulsion from school.

**FIREARMS<sup>3</sup>**

In accordance with state law, any student who brings to school or is in unauthorized possession of a firearm on school property (including school buses/vehicles) shall be expelled for a period of not less than one (1) calendar year. The Director of Schools shall have the authority to modify this expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis.<sup>4</sup>

**DRUGS**

In accordance with state law, any student who unlawfully possesses any drug, including any controlled substance, controlled substance analogue, or legend drug on school grounds, property (including school buses/vehicles), or at a school-sponsored event, shall be expelled for a period of not less than one (1) calendar year. The Director of Schools shall have the authority to modify this expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis.<sup>4</sup>

**ASSAULT<sup>5, 6</sup>**

A student who commits any form of assault (causes bodily injury, causes fear of bodily injury, or physical contact that is considered threatening) upon another student, any employee of the school district, or school resource officer shall be expelled for a period of not less than one (1) calendar year. The Director of Schools shall have the authority to modify this expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis.<sup>4</sup>

**THREATS**

In accordance with state law, any student who transmits any communication (electronic, written, or verbal), containing a **credible threat to cause bodily injury or death** to another student or school employee and the transmission of such threat creates actual disruptive activity at the school that requires administrative intervention shall be expelled for a period of not less than one (1) calendar year. The Director of Schools shall have the authority to modify this expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis.<sup>4</sup>

**NOTIFICATION**

When it is determined that a student has violated this policy, the principal of the school shall notify the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) and the criminal justice or juvenile delinquency system as required by law.<sup>7</sup>

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Legal References

1. TCA 39-17-1309
2. TCA 39-11-106(a)(5)
3. 18 USCA § 921; 20 USCA § 7961(b)(3)
4. TCA 49-6-4216(b); TCA 49-6-3401(g)
5. TCA 39-13-102; TCA 39-13-101(a)(1)
7. TCA 49-6-4209; TCA 39-17-1312

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Cross References

- Code of Conduct 6.300  
Drug-Free Schools 6.307  
Suspension/Expulsion/Remand 6.316