

**Tumwater School District
Administrative Procedures**

**REGULATION OF DANGEROUS WEAPONS
ON SCHOOL PREMISES**

Discipline for Possession of Weapons Regulation

The Board of Directors of Tumwater School District No. 33 declares its intent not to tolerate possession of weapons as defined in RCW 9.41.280 by students on District property or at District-sponsored events. Student possession of a weapon on District property or at District-sponsored events creates a danger to students and staff, and is disruptive to the operation of schools. Except in extenuating or exceptional circumstances, those in violation of this policy will be subject to disciplinary action as follows:

1. The principal/designee shall place the student on emergency expulsion, in accordance with the Washington Administrative Code, Chapter 180-40.
2. The principal/designee shall notify the parents/guardians and request an immediate conference.
3. Unless otherwise provided by law, in cases involving the possession of a firearm or an air gun, the principal/designee shall, without exception, expel the student. In cases involving other weapons, the principal/designee shall place the student on long-term suspension, unless expulsion is warranted under the circumstances.
4. The principal/designee shall notify appropriate law enforcement personnel.
5. In cases involving weapons other than a firearm or an air gun, the principal/designee may initiate a transfer of the student to an appropriate program.

Documenting and Reporting

Student suspensions and expulsions shall be monitored by the District administration. Suspensions and expulsions will be compiled semi-annually documenting the number of weapons suspensions/expulsion, racial/ethnic composition and gender of students by schools. This information will be reported to the Superintendent and the Board.

Review and Evaluation

The District's "ad hoc citizens committee on exceptional misconduct" will review the suspension/expulsion data annually. Following this review, the Committee will submit its findings and recommendations in a report to the Board of Directors and Superintendent.

Exception

This regulation shall not apply to any student engaged in military activities sponsored by the Federal or State government, an authorized rifle club activity, or a class or program which uses equipment and tools for instructional and training purposes; provided, however, all exceptions must be under the supervision of a district staff member.

Process for Dealing with Students who Possess Weapons

1. If the weapon is a firearm, an air gun, a “look-alike” or a knife:
 - a. Place the student on an emergency expulsion;
 - b. Immediately notify the police;
 - c. Notify parent/guardian and request an immediate conference;
 - d. If the student is qualified for any special education services, convene a MDT (form) meeting to determine whether the misconduct is related to the student’s disability. If it is, the student cannot be expelled (options to be considered – change in placement). If it is not, expel the student following step (e.) below;
 - e. For all other students, expel the student by issuing a formal “Expulsion” sent by certified mail or delivered in person. Because some people refuse to claim certified mail, send a copy of the expulsion by regular mail as well.

2. For all other weapons:
 - a. Place the student on an emergency expulsion;
 - b. Immediately notify the police;
 - c. Notify the parent/guardian and request an immediate conference;
 - d. If the student is qualified for any special education services, convene a MDT meeting to determine whether the misconduct is related to the student’s disability. If it is, the student cannot be given a suspension of more than 10 days (or fewer, if there was a previous suspension in the same school year) or an expulsion. If it is not, give the student a long-term suspension, unless the facts warrant an expulsion. Send the form by certified mail or have it delivered in person, with a copy sent by regular mail.
 - e. For all other students, place the student on a long-term suspension (a minimum of 11 school days, which may include time served under the emergency expulsion.) If, however, the facts warrant a more serious penalty, expel the student. The long-term suspension or expulsion form must be sent by certified mail or delivered in person. Send a copy to the parents through regular mail.

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