Policy

WEAPONS IN SCHOOL

Code **JICI** Revised **11/24**

Purpose: To establish the basic structure for the board's prohibition of student possession of weapons.

It is the policy of the board of education to ensure the safety and welfare of its students and employees. The presence of firearms, knives, dirks, razors, metal knuckles, slingshots, bludgeons, blackjacks or any other deadly instrument used for the infliction of bodily harm or injury to students and staff.

While on school grounds, in school buildings, on buses or at school-related functions, students will not possess any item capable of inflicting injury or harm (hereinafter referred to as a weapon) to persons or property when that item is not used in relation to a normal school activity at a scheduled time for the student. No vehicles parked on school property may contain firearms, knives, blackjacks or other items which are generally considered to be weapons. In accordance with state law, this vehicle restriction applies to any enrolled student regardless of age.

Level of offense

It is a felony offense, punishable by a fine of $1,000 or imprisonment for five years, or both, to carry a weapon as referenced above on school property.

It is a misdemeanor offense, punishable by a fine of up to $500 or imprisonment for up to 90 days, to carry a concealed dirk, slingshot, metal knuckles, razor or other deadly weapon.

Weapons (firearms)

Note: The following is directed specifically by the Gun-Free School Act 20 U.S.C. 7151

The board will expel any student who brings a weapon to school. For purposes of this policy, weapon means a firearm. The term firearm is defined extensively in the U.S. Code, but generally means a weapon (gun) or destructive device (explosive incendiary).

The period of expulsion will be no less than a year.

The board directs the superintendent to bring recommendations for expulsion consistent with this policy except that the superintendent, on a case-by-case basis, may modify this expulsion requirement.

The district may provide educational services in an alternative setting to students expelled under this policy.

The district will refer each expelled student to the local county office of the Department of Juvenile Justice.

Adopted 2/7/12; Revision 3/4/13, revised 11/11/2024

Legal references:

A. United States Code:
   1. 20 U.S.C. 7151 – Gun-Free Schools

B. U.S. Supreme Court Cases:
   1. New Jersey v. T.L.O, 469 U.S. 325 (1985)

C. Code of Laws, 1976, as amended:
   1. Section 16-23-420 – Possession of firearm on school property; concealed weapons.
   2. Section 16-23-430 – Possession of concealed weapons; school property exception.
   3. Section 59-63-235 – Expulsion of student determined to have brought firearm to school.
   4. Section 59-63-370 – Administrator notification of a student's conviction or delinquency adjudication for certain offenses; placement of information in permanent school records; definition of "weapon."