

**Policy Statement #1515 (Administration) of the Board of Education
Regarding Weapons in Calvert County Public Schools**

I. Purpose

- A. To ensure that school property is safe and weapon-free.

II. Definitions

- A. Firearm – Any weapon defined in §921 of Title 18 of the United States Code; any weapon which will, or is designed to, or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; the frame or receiver of any weapon described above; any weapon which 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 inch in diameter; or any combination of parts either designed or intended for use in converting any device into a destructive device described above, and from which a destructive device may be readily assembled.
- B. Look alike weapons – Any item that resembles or appears to be a weapon, even if it is not functional or intended to cause harm, such as toy guns, replica firearms, and other objects designed to imitate real weapons.
- C. School property - Any Calvert County Public Schools (CCPS) building and/or grounds, and any CCPS leased or owned vehicles, including school buses when they are in use for official school business. This includes any location used for co- or extra-curricular activities, including any field trips.
- D. Weapon - Any object which reasonably could cause or be used in such a way as to cause harm or injury to a person. Weapons shall include, but are not limited to, the following: any firearm of any kind, whether loaded or unloaded, operable or inoperable; knives; straight razors or razor blades; spiked objects; metal knuckles; nunchaku; explosive devices; chemical mace, tear gas, or pepper spray; or stun guns.

III. Policy Statement

- A. Weapons and look alike weapons pose a threat or perceived threat to individuals on school property and can disrupt the educational process. The Board of Education is committed to providing a safe and weapon-free environment. To that end, Calvert County Public Schools will inform the public, including Calvert County Public Schools employees and students, that no person, unless otherwise authorized by law or by the Superintendent or his/her designee, shall carry or possess a weapon or a look alike weapon of any kind on school property.
- B. When a weapon or look-alike weapon is found on school property, school administration will immediately notify the Calvert County Sheriff's Office (CCSO), via the School Resource Officer (SRO). If the SRO is unavailable, the SRO Supervisor or CCSO headquarters will be notified. Additionally, the School Safety Advocate will be notified.

This measure is in order to maintain a secure environment conducive to learning and to uphold the safety standards set by the Board of Education. Incidents of weapon possession will be reported to the Calvert County Board of Education.

IV. Delegation of Authority

- A. The Superintendent is directed to develop administrative procedures to implement this policy in accordance with all local policies and local, state, and federal laws and regulations and to communicate this policy and accompanying procedures to all relevant parties.

V. Exceptions

- A. There are no exceptions to this policy. However, the Board, by majority vote, may temporarily suspend all or part of this policy. Suspension of all or part of this policy, however, in no way relieves the Board of its obligation to comply with the pertinent local, state, and federal laws and regulations or the rules and regulations of the Maryland State Board of Education and the Maryland State Department of Education.

VI. Review

- A. This policy will be reviewed at the end of three years, or sooner, if approved by majority vote of the Board of Education in public session.

VII. Effective Date

- A. This policy is effective April 10, 2025.

Citations

State Law: § 7-305 of the Education Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland
§ 4-102 of the Criminal Law Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland
State Reg.: COMAR 13A.08.01.12-1; COMAR 13A.08.03.06
Fed Law: 18 U.S.C. 921; Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004, 20 U.S.C. 1400
Adm. Reg.:
Neg. Agr.:
Other Citation: