

SECTION: PUPILS
 TITLE: WEAPONS
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A. W. BEATTIE CAREER CENTER

218.1 WEAPONS	
1. Purpose	The Joint Operating Committee (JOC) recognizes the importance of a safe school environment relative to the educational process. Possession of weapons in the school setting is a threat to the safety of students and staff and is prohibited by law. Act 44 (ACT) of 2025 is a requirement of all schools in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The ACT requires all school entities to notify parents/guardians and school staff within 24 hours if a weapon is discovered on school property, at a school sponsored event or on school transportation. Students attending A.W. Beattie have access to and utilize equipment, tools, and supplies that by the items very nature if utilized improperly would be classified as a "weapon" by the following definition. Students receive annual safety training and updates on the proper use of equipment, tools, and supplies. Simply stated, the actions of a student improperly using equipment, tools, or supplies in a manner as described under the definition of a "weapon" would be a violation of this weapons policy, and subject to discipline procedures as described.
2. Definitions SC 1317.2	The term "weapon" shall include but not limited to, any knife, cutting instrument, cutting tool, nunchaku, firearm, shotgun, rifle, metal knuckles, straight razor, explosive, noxious, irritating, or poisonous gas, poison, replica of a weapon and/or any other tool, instrument or implement capable of inflicting serious bodily injury, or items fashioned with the intent to use, sell, harm, threaten or harass students, staff members, parents/guardians, and patrons. Possession - a student is in possession of a weapon when the weapon is found on the person of the student; while in or on the student's abandoned property; in the student's locker or assigned storage area; or under the student's control while on Career Center property, on property being used by the Career Center, at any Career Center function or activity, at any Career Center event held away from the Career Center, or while the student is coming to or from the Career Center.

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	Any weapon/instrument possessed on or about a person while on Career Center property is subject to seizure and forfeiture.
3. Authority SC 1317.2	The JOC prohibits students from possessing and bringing weapons and replicas of weapons into any Career Center buildings, onto Career Center property, to any Career Center-sponsored activity, and onto any public vehicle providing transportation to or from the Career Center or a Career Center-sponsored activity, or while the students is coming to or from the Career Center.
SC 1317.2 Pol. 233	The Career Center shall expel for a period of not less than one (1) year any student who violates this weapons policy in coordination with the LEA of residence. Such expulsion shall be given in conformance with formal due process proceedings required by law. The Executive Director may recommend modifications of such expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis. In the case of a violation involving a replica, the Executive Director may take into consideration the age of the student involved, the nature of the replica in question, the prior disciplinary 'record of the student, and other mitigating circumstances in recommending appropriate disciplinary action other than expulsion. In the case of a student with a disability, including a student for whom an evaluation is pending, the Career Center shall take all steps required to comply with state and federal laws and regulations, the procedures set forth in the memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement and JOC policies.
3. Delegation of Responsibility SC 1317.2 20 U.S.C. Seq. 1400 et seq	The Executive Director or designee shall react promptly to information and knowledge concerning possession of a weapon. Such action shall be in compliance with state law and regulations and with the procedures set forth in the memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement officials and the Career Center's emergency preparedness plan. Any weapon/instrument possessed on or about a person while on Career Center property is subject to seizure or forfeiture. In accordance with federal law, possession or discharge of a weapon in, on, or within 1,000 feet of Career Center grounds is prohibited.
SC 1317.2	Reporting <u>Law Enforcement Incident Report:</u>
SC 1317.2	The Executive Director or designee shall immediately report incidents involving weapons on Career Center property, at any Career Center-sponsored activity or on a conveyance providing transportation to or from a Career Center or Career Center-sponsored activity to the law enforcement agency that has jurisdiction over the Career Center's property, in accordance with state law and regulations, the procedures set forth in the memorandum of understanding with law enforcement and JOC policies.
SC 1303-A	

SC 1303-A	<u>Parental Report - Direct Involvement:</u> The Executive Director or designee shall notify the parent/guardian of any student directly involved in an incident involving weapons as a victim or suspect immediately, as soon practicable. The Executive Director or designee shall inform the parent/guardian whether
5. Guidelines	or not the law enforcement agency that has jurisdiction over the Career Center property has been or may be notified of the incident. The Executive Director or designee shall document attempts made to reach the parent/guardian.
SC 1317.2	<u>Additional Parental and Employee Notifications:</u> The Executive Director or designee shall, in accordance with applicable law, ensure notification of an incident involving possession of a weapon on Career Center property, at a Career Center-sponsored activity or on a conveyance providing transportation to or from the Career Center or Career Center-sponsored activity, to employees and parents/guardians of students as follows: 1. Incident occurring at a Career Center building - Notification to parents/guardians in or attending that Career Center building and Career Center employees assigned to that building. 2. Incident occurring at a Career Center building that shares a campus with other Career Center buildings - Notification to parents/guardians of students enrolled or attending and Career Center employees assigned to any building on the shared campus. 3. Incident occurring at a Career Center-sponsored activity or on a public conveyance providing transportation to or from a Career Center-sponsored activity - Notification to the appropriate population of parents/guardians and Career Center employees. Notification is not required if the incident is not directly related to the Career Center-sponsored activity or the students or staff involved in the activity.
18 U.S.C. Sec. 921, 922	Such notification(s) must occur within twenty-four (24) hours of the incident using a method of communication likely to reach designated parents/guardians and employees, unless the circumstances of the incident necessitate otherwise.
	<u>Annual School Safety and Security Incidents Report:</u> In accordance with state law, the Executive Director shall annually, by July 31, report all incidents involving possession of a weapon to the PA Department of Education.

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References:

School Code - 24 P.S. Sec. 1303-A, 1317.2

State Board of Education Regulations - 22 PA Code Sec. 403.1

Possession of Weapon on School Property - Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 912

Gun Control Act - 18 U.S.C. Sec. 921, 922

Individuals With Disabilities Education Act - 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1400 et seq.

Gun-Free School Act - 20 U.S.C. Sec. 7151

No Child Left Behind Act - 20 U.S.C. Sec. 7114

Individuals With Disabilities Education, Title 34, Code of Federal Regulations -
34 CFR Part 300

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