EASTCONN
Where Learning Comes to Life

STUDENTS
Series 5000
Policy 5021.4.1

Weapons and Dangerous Instruments

The EASTCONN Board of Directors determines that possession, concealment, and/or use of a weapon by a Pre-K through Adult Ed student is detrimental to the welfare and safety of the students and school personnel within EASTCONN. Possession and/or use of any dangerous or deadly weapon, firearm, or destructive device in any school building on school grounds, in any school vehicle, or at any school-sponsored activity is prohibited.

Pursuant to federal law, the term firearm includes, but is not limited to, any weapon designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive, the frame or receiver of any such weapon, a muffler or silencer for such a weapon, or destructive device. A student who violates this policy will be reported to law enforcement authorities.

A "destructive device" is considered any device with an explosive, incendiary or poison gas component or any combination of parts either designed or intended for use in converting any device into any destructive device or from which a destructive device may be readily assembled. A destructive device does not include any device which is designed primarily for use as a signaling, pyrotechnic, line-throwing, safety or similar device.

The possession or use of any such weapon or devices will require that the proceedings for the suspension and/or expulsion of the student involved will be initiated immediately by the principal. If the student is found to have possessed a firearm or other dangerous weapon as defined in Connecticut General Statutes 53a-3 in violation of 29-35 or 53-206, in or on the real property of a school or at any school activity as defined in Connecticut General Statutes 10-233a, he/she must be expelled for one calendar year. The EASTCONN Board of Directors or hearing board may modify the period of expulsion on a case by case basis. To comply with federal law, any finding of an exception shall be reduced to writing.

The EASTCONN Board of Directors shall consider a student's conduct off school grounds that is seriously disruptive of the educational process or is violative of publicized policies of the EASTCONN Board of Directors as grounds for expulsion.

Weapons under the control of law enforcement personnel are permitted. The Executive Director may authorize other persons to possess weapons for courses, programs and activities approved by EASTCONN and conducted on EASTCONN property.

In accordance with the federal Gun-Free School Zone Act, possession or discharge of a firearm

in a school zone is prohibited. A "school zone" is defined by federal law, means in/on school grounds or within 1,000 feet of school grounds.

"Gun-Free School Zone" signs will/may be posted in cooperation with city/town officials as appropriate. Violations, unless otherwise excepted by law or this policy, shall be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

(cf. 5023.1.1- Conduct and Discipline)

(cf. 5021.1.1 - Search and Seizure)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-221 Boards of education to prescribe rules.

10-233a through 10-233f - Expulsion as amended by PA 95-304

53a-3 Definitions.

53a-217b - Possession of firearms and deadly weapons on school grounds

53-206 Carrying and sale of dangerous weapons.

PA 94-221 An Act Concerning School Discipline and Safety.

Gun-Free School Zones Act of 1990, 18 U.S.C. §§ 921(a))25)-(26), 922(q) (2006)

GOALS 2000: Educate America Act

18 U.S.C. 921 Definitions.

USCA 7151 - No Child Left Behind Act

Youth Handgun Safety Act, 18 U.S.C. §§ 922(x), 924(a)(6) (2006)

Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act, 20 U.S.C. §§ 7101-7117

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