Policy

WEAPONS IN SCHOOL

Code **JICI** Revised **11/26**

Weapons

It is the policy of the board to ensure the safety and welfare of its students and staff. The presence of firearms, knives with a blade length of over two inches, blackjacks, dirks, razors, metal knuckles, slingshots, metal pipes, metal poles, or any other instrument used for the infliction of bodily harm or death on school district property poses a severe threat of serious 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 up to $1,000, or imprisonment for up to five years, or both, to carry firearms, knives with a blade length of over two inches, blackjacks, dirks, razors, metal knuckles, slingshots, metal pipes, metal poles, or any other deadly weapon, device, or object as referenced above on school property.

Expulsions relating to weapons (firearms)

The board will expel any student who knowingly brings a firearm to school, on school grounds, in school buildings, on buses, or to school-related functions. The term firearm is defined extensively in federal law but generally means a weapon (gun) or destructive device (explosive, incendiary).

The period of expulsion will be no less than one 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.

When the board conducts the expulsion hearing, the board may, on a case-by-case basis, modify this expulsion requirement.

The district may provide educational services in an alternative education setting or virtually to a student expelled under this section.

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

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Adopted 2/7/12; Revision 3/4/13, revised 11/11/2024,11/26

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."