

Policy Guide

Policy No. 218.1Section PUPILSTitle WEAPONSAdopted SEPTEMBER 18, 1995Last Revised JANUARY 21, 2025

POLICY NO. 218.1 WEAPONS		
Section 1	<p><u>Purpose</u></p> <p>The Board recognizes the importance of a safe school environment. Possession of weapons in the school setting is a threat to the safety of students and staff and is prohibited by law.</p>	
Section 2	<p><u>Definitions</u></p> <p>Weapon – the term shall include, but not be limited to any knife; cutting instrument; cutting tool; impact tool or weapon; firearm, shotgun, rifle; explosive devices (including ammunition); noxious chemicals; and/or any other tool, instrument or implement or a replica or facsimiles of these capable of inflicting serious bodily injury or serious disruption to the educational setting.</p> <p>Possession – a student is in possession of a weapon when the weapon is found on the person of the student; in the student’s locker or assigned storage area; or under the student’s control while on school property, on property being used by the school, at any school function or activity, at any school event held away from the school, or while the student is coming to or from school.</p>	SC 1301-A, 1317.2
Section 3	<p><u>Authority</u></p> <p>The Board prohibits students from possessing and bringing weapons and replicas of weapons into any district buildings, onto school property, to any school-sponsored activity, and onto any public vehicle providing transportation to or from school or</p>	SC 1317.2 Pol. 218

	<p style="text-align: center;">POLICY NO. 218.1 WEAPONS</p> <p>any school sponsored activity, or while the student is coming to or from school.</p> <p>The Board shall expel for a period of not less than one (1) year any student who violates this weapons policy. Such expulsion shall be given in conformance with formal due process proceedings required by law.</p> <p>The Superintendent may recommend modifications of such expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis.</p> <p>In the case of a student with a disability, including a student for whom an evaluation is pending, the District in collaboration with the Solicitor shall take all steps required to comply with state and federal laws and regulations, the procedures set forth in the memorandum of understanding with law enforcement and Board policies while ensuring that the safety of all students and personnel is of the utmost importance.</p>	<p>SC 1317.2 Pol. 113.1, 233</p> <p>SC 1317.2</p> <p>SC 1317.2 22 PA Code 10.23 20 U.S.C. Sec 1400 et seq. Pol. 103.1, 113.1, 113.2, 113.3, 805.1</p>
Section 4	<p><u>Delegation of Responsibility</u></p> <p>The Superintendent 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 the law enforcement agency that has jurisdiction over the school's property, and the District's emergency preparedness plan.</p> <p>When the behavior of a student in possession of a weapon indicates a threat to the safety of the student, other students, school employees, school facilities, the community or others, district staff shall report the student to the threat assessment team, in accordance with applicable law and Board policy. If a person believes there is an imminent threat, they should call 911 immediately.</p>	<p>SC 1319-B Pol. 805, 805.1</p> <p>SC 1302-E Pol. 236.1</p>
Section 5	<p><u>Guidelines</u></p> <p>The Superintendent or designee shall immediately report incidents involving weapons on school property, at any school-sponsored activity or on a conveyance providing transportation to or from a school or school-sponsored activity or while the</p>	<p>SC 1306.2-B, 1317.2, 1319-B 22 PA Code 10.2, 10.21</p>

	<p style="text-align: center;">POLICY NO. 218.1 WEAPONS</p> <p>student is coming to or from school to the law enforcement agency that has jurisdiction over the school's property, in accordance with state law and regulations, the procedures set forth in the memorandum of understanding with law enforcement and Board policies.</p> <p>The Superintendent or designee shall notify the person in parental relation of any student directly involved in an incident involving weapons as a victim or suspect immediately, as soon as practical. The Superintendent or designee shall inform the person in parental relation that the law enforcement agency that has jurisdiction over the school property has been notified of the incident. The Superintendent or designee shall document attempts made to reach the person in parental relation.</p> <p>In accordance with state law, the Superintendent shall annually, by July 31, report all incidents involving possession of a weapon to the PA Department of Education on the required form.</p> <p>The building principal shall annually inform staff, students and persons in parental relation about the Board policy prohibiting weapons and about their personal responsibility for the health, safety and welfare of the school community.</p> <p>An exception to this policy may be made by the Superintendent, in accordance with law, who shall prescribe special conditions or procedures to be followed.</p> <p>In accordance with the federal law, possession or discharge of a firearm in, on, or within 1,000 feet of school grounds is prohibited. Violations shall be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency.</p> <p><u>Transfer Students</u></p> <p>When the District receives a student who transfers from a public or private school during an expulsion period for an offense involving a weapon, the District may assign that student to an alternative assignment or may provide alternative education, provided the assignment does not exceed the expulsion period.</p>	<p>Pol. 805.1</p> <p>22 PA Code 10.2, 10.25 Pol. 805.1</p> <p>SC 1306.2-B, 1319-B Pol 805.1</p> <p>SC 1317.2</p> <p>18 U.S.C. 921, 922</p> <p>SC 1317.2 Pol. 200</p>
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