

Weapons

The Board believes weapons, other dangerous objects and look-a-likes in school district facilities cause material and substantial disruption to the school environment or present a threat to the health and safety of students, employees and visitors on the school district premises or properties within the jurisdiction of the school district.

School district facilities/vehicles are not an appropriate place for weapons, dangerous objects and look-a-likes. Weapons, other dangerous objects and look-a-likes shall be taken from students and others who bring them on to the school district properties or onto property within the jurisdiction of the school district (“school property”) or from students who are within the control of the school district.

Parents of students found to possess weapons, dangerous objects and look-a-likes on school property shall be notified of the incident. Possession or confiscation of weapons, dangerous objects or look-a-likes will be reported to law enforcement officials, and students will be subject to disciplinary action including suspension or expulsion.

Students bringing firearms to school or onto school buses/vehicles, or knowingly possessing firearms on school properties will be expelled for not less than one year. The superintendent has the authority to recommend this expulsion requirement be modified for students on a case-by-case basis. For purposes of this portion of this policy, the term “firearm” includes, but is not limited to, any weapon which is designed 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 any explosive, incendiary or poison gas, or otherwise defined by applicable law.

Weapons under the control of law enforcement officials or other individuals specifically authorized by the board are exempt from this policy. The principal may allow authorized persons to display weapons or other dangerous objects or look-a-likes for educational purposes. Such a display shall also be exempt from this policy. It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the principal, to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy.

Adopted: October 24, 1994
Reviewed: September 14, 2015
Revised: April 10, 2017

Legal Reference:
No Child Left Behind, Title IV, Sec. 4141, P.L. 107-110 (2002).
Improving America’s Schools Act of 1994, P.L. 103-382.
18 U.S.C. 921 (1994).

McClain v. Lafayette County Bd. Of Education,
673 F.2d 106 (5th Cir. 1982).
Iowa Code 279.8; 280.21B; 724 (1997).
281 I.A.C. 12.3(6)