WEAPONS IN SCHOOL

No one shall possess, use or store a weapon or look-alike weapon in or on school property, in school vehicles, or at school-related activities. A dangerous weapon or look-alike weapon is defined in state statutes and may include any object which, by the manner in which it is used or intended to be used, is capable of inflicting harm or could pretend to be capable of inflicting bodily harm or endangering the health and safety of students or staff. Ammunition and explosives are included within the weapons category.

Policy exceptions include:

1. Weapons under the control of law enforcement personnel.

2. Weapons in the building for purposes of demonstration or educational presentations. Written approval must be received by the building principal prior to the weapon being brought to school. The weapon should be maintained in the possession of the principal except during the presentation or demonstration.

3. Theatrical props used in appropriate settings.

4. Starter pistols used in appropriate sporting events.

5. Items pre-approved by the building principal as part of a class or individual presentation under adult supervision. (Firearms and ammunition will never be approved as part of a presentation.)

Weapons or look-alike weapons confiscated from a student shall be reported to parents/guardians and to law enforcement authorities, and disciplinary measures shall include immediate suspension, and <u>may</u> include referral to the Board of Education for expulsion.

Possession of firearms, or look-alike firearms, shall likewise be reported to parents/guardians and to law enforcement authorities, but disciplinary measures shall include immediate suspension <u>and</u> referral to the Board of Education for expulsion from school as provided by the Gun Free School Act of 1994.

Any employee violating this policy will be subject to disciplinary sanctions up to and including termination of employment, in accordance with the current employee agreement or other procedures established by the Board, and referred to law enforcement officials for prosecution.

Any other person violating this policy shall be referred to law enforcement officials for prosecution.

Law enforcement officers will be summoned to the schools in a situation involving a weapon which presents an immediate threat to safety. If the situation does not allow an opportunity to contact law enforcement officials immediately, school staff and administration shall attempt to diffuse and control the situation until law enforcement officials can be summoned. Personnel should exercise careful judgment and extreme caution to determine whether that person will voluntarily surrender the weapon to school personnel.

Notice of this policy shall be published annually in all District student and staff handbooks.

LEGAL REF: WI. ST. 118.164, 120.13 (1) (c) (2m),
941.235, 941.2965, 948.60, 948.605, 948.61

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