



SD 42 POLICY: 9420

DANGEROUS WEAPONS IN THE SCHOOLS

It is the policy of the school district to maintain a positive, safe, secure learning and working environment. In striving to attain such an environment, the district takes the position of no tolerance for weapons in our schools. All weapons or instruments that have the appearance of a weapon are prohibited within all school environments and the school zone, except for educational purposes as authorized in advance by the school principal or designate. School environments include, but are not limited to, district-owned buildings; leased or rented facilities; school-sponsored activities; field trips; school vehicles and school buses rented or owned. Anyone found to be in possession of a weapon in any area defined in this policy, before, during, or after school hours is subject to administrative and/or legal action.

The school administration shall ensure that this policy is brought to the attention of all students, parents and staff members on a regular basis.

Students and non-students, including employees and other adults, are forbidden to knowingly or voluntarily possess, store in any area subject to one's control, handle, transmit, or use any instrument that is considered a weapon or "look-alike" weapon in any of the school environments listed above.

"Weapon" means any firearm whether loaded or unloaded; any chemical, substance, device, or instrument designed as a weapon or through its use capable of threatening or producing bodily harm or death; or any device or instrument that is used to threaten, strike terror, or cause bodily harm or death.

A. Category 1 Weapons

The district does not tolerate the following objects:

- 1.00 All firearms, whether loaded or unloaded, etc.
- 1.01 Other guns of all types including pellet, B-B, stun, look-alike, and non-functioning guns that could be used to threaten others, etc.
- 1.02 Knives, switchblades or automatically opening blades, daggers, swords, razors, etc.
- 1.03 Artificial knuckles or other objects designed to be worn over the fist or knuckles, etc.
- 1.04 Blackjacks, clubs, numchucks, throwing stars, etc.

- 1.05 Explosives
- 1.06 Poisons, chemicals, or substances capable of causing bodily harm
- 1.07 Bow and arrows, sling-shots, etc.
- 1.08 Any other device or instrument used to intimidate, threaten or inflict harm.

B. Category 1 Violation by Students

The procedure for all offences is:

- 1.00 Confiscation of the weapon (if it can be done safely), or call 911 and request assistance if needed.
- 1.01 Notification of the Superintendent or designates.
- 1.02 Inform the student of the policy provision that has been violated
 - Confront the student with the evidence
 - Provide an opportunity for the student to respond to the allegations.
- 1.03 Notify the parent/guardian.
- 1.04 Initially, suspension from school for an indefinite period (more than 10 days).
- 1.05 Involvement of police with recommendation to charge.
- 1.06 Recommendation to the Superintendent regarding expulsion.
- 1.07 A hearing with the Suspension Review Committee arranged.

C. Category I Violation by other Youths and Adults, Including Employees

- 1.00 Immediate police involvement with recommendation to charge.
- 1.01 Employees will also be subject to district investigation and application of relevant disciplinary procedures.

D. Category 2 Weapons-Possession of Objects That May or May Not Be Considered Weapons

While this policy represents a “no tolerance” position on weapons and/or look-alike weapons, there are several objects that are questionable regarding whether they are considered weapons and whether the presence of these objects requires activation and enforcement of this policy. The administrator may use his or her discretion when interpreting use and intent with such objects. Such potentially dangerous objects may include, but are not limited to:

- 1.00 Small pocket knives
- 1.01 Fireworks, fire crackers, and smoke bombs

- 1.02 Throwing darts
- 1.03 Nuisance items and toys
- 1.04 Unauthorized tools
- 1.05 Mace

E. Category 2 Violation by Students

The procedure for offenses if deemed a weapon is provided for under Category I. The procedure for offenses if deemed to be “unsafe” or contrary to school rules is:

- 1.00 Confiscation of object (if it can be done safely)
- 1.01 Notification of parent/guardian
- 1.02 Inform the student of the policy provision that has been violated
 - Confront the student with the evidence
 - Provide an opportunity for the student to respond to the allegations.
- 1.03 If appropriate, initial suspension from school for up to 10 days.
- 1.04 If appropriate, involvement of police with recommendation to charge.

APPROVED: February 13, 2013