

DANGEROUS WEAPONS IN THE SCHOOLS

The Board is committed to providing the students of the District with an educational environment which is free of the dangers of firearms, knives and other dangerous weapons.

The definition of a firearm is any weapon (including a starter gun) which is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; the frame or receiver of any such weapon; any firearm muffler or firearm silencer or any destructive device (as defined in 18 U.S.C.A. Section 921), which includes any explosive, incendiary or poisonous gas, bomb, grenade, rocket having a propellant charge of more than four ounces, missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than one-quarter ounce, mine or device similar to any of the devices described above.

Unless a student is permanently excluded, the Superintendent shall expel a student from school for a period of one year for bringing a firearm to a school operated by the Board or on to any other property owned or controlled by the Board, except that the Superintendent may reduce this requirement on a case-by-case basis in accordance with this policy. Any such expulsion shall extend, as necessary, into the school year following the school year in which the incident that gives rise to the expulsion takes place.

The Board authorizes the Superintendent to expel a student from school for a period not to exceed one year for bringing a knife to a school operated by the Board or onto any other property owned or controlled by the Board or for possessing a firearm or knife at a school or on any other property owned or controlled by the Board which firearm or knife was initially brought onto school property by another person. The resolution may authorize the Superintendent to extend such an expulsion into the school year following the school year in which the incident that gives rise to the expulsion takes place.

Matters which might lead to a reduction of the expulsion period include: an incident involving a disabled student when the incident is a manifestation of the disability; the age of the student and its relevance to the punishment; the prior disciplinary history of the student and/or the intent of the perpetrator.

A student may be expelled for up to one year for firearm-related or knife-related incidents occurring off school property while at a school-sponsored interscholastic competition, extracurricular event or other school-sponsored activity.

A student suspended, expelled, removed or permanently excluded from school for misconduct involving a firearm or knife also loses his/her driving privileges. The District must notify the county registrar and juvenile judge within two weeks of the suspension, expulsion or permanent exclusion.

The Board prohibits students from knowingly possessing an object on school premises, in a school or a school building, at a school activity or on a school bus if both of the following apply.

1. The object is indistinguishable from a weapon of assault or a look alike weapon of assault, whether or not the object is capable of bodily harm.
2. The person indicates that the person possesses the object and that it is a firearm, or the person knowingly displays or brandishes the object and indicates that it is a firearm.

As defined by Ohio law and for purposes of this policy, an "object that is indistinguishable from a firearm" means an object made, constructed or altered so that, to a reasonable person without specialized training in firearms, the object appears to be a firearm.

Students found in violation of numbers 1 and 2 above may be reported to the local police authority and may be prosecuted under state criminal statutes, as well as disciplined in accordance with the provisions of the District's student code of conduct and Ohio law.

The Superintendent is authorized to expel a student from school for a period not to exceed one year for making a bomb threat to a school building, or to any premises at which a school activity is occurring at the time of the threat. Any expulsion under this division extends, as necessary, into the school year following the school year in which the incident that gives rise to the expulsion takes place.

Adopted: February 15, 1995
 Revised: August 23, 1995
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 Revised: December 15, 1999
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LEGAL REFS.: ORC 2923.122
 3313.66; 3313.661; 3313.662
 3321.13
 18 USC 921
 20 USC 2701 et seq. - Title IX 9001-9005
 20 USC 8922

CROSS REFS.: JEGA, Permanent Exclusion
 JFC, Student Conduct
 JGD, Student Suspension
 JGDA, Emergency Removal of Student JGE, Student Expulsion
 JGE, Student Expulsion
 Student Code of Conduct

INCIDENT REPORTING ALGORITHM

