

DANGEROUS WEAPONS IN THE SCHOOLS

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

The definition of a firearm shall include any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or 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. Sections 921-924.), which includes but is not limited to any explosive, incendiary, or poisonous gas; bomb, grenade, or 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.

Students are prohibited from bringing a firearm on school property, in a school vehicle, or to an interscholastic competition, extracurricular event, or any other program or activity sponsored by the District, from possessing a firearm at a school, on any property owned or controlled by the Board, or at an interscholastic competition, an extracurricular event, or any other school program or activity, which firearm was intentionally brought onto school property by another person, and 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. The Superintendent shall expel a student who violates this provision from school for a period of one calendar year. Any such expulsion shall extend, as necessary, into the school year following the school year in which the incident occurred. The Superintendent may reduce this requirement on a case-by-case basis in accordance with State law, taking into account the student's past academic and behavioral performance, the student's appreciation or lack of appreciation of the seriousness of the offense and the likelihood of the recurrence and such other factors as the Superintendent may deem relevant under the particular circumstance.

Students are also prohibited from bringing knives on school property, in a school vehicle, or to an interscholastic competition, an extracurricular event, or any other school program or activity, and from possessing a knife at a school or any property owned or controlled by the Board or at an interscholastic competition, an extracurricular event, or any other school program or activity, which knife was intentionally brought onto school property by another person. The definition of a knife includes, but is not limited to a cutting instrument consisting of a sharp blade fastened to a handle, or any implement or tool sharpened or filed in such a way that it functionally operates as a knife. A knife is defined as a cutting instrument having a sharp blade **that is capable of causing serious bodily injury**. If a student brings a knife on school property, in a school vehicle, or to any school-sponsored activity, the Superintendent may expel the student for up to one year, taking into account such factors as noted above.

The Superintendent, taking into account such factors as noted above, may expel a student for up to one year for committing -- while the student is at school, on any other property owned or controlled by the District, at any interscholastic competition, at any extracurricular event, or at any other school program or activity -- an act that is a criminal offense when committed by an adult and that results in serious physical harm to persons (as defined in Section 2901.01 of the Ohio Revised Code) or serious physical harm to property (as defined in Section 2901.01 of the Revised Code).

Students who possess or use other dangerous weapons, which are defined but not limited to metal knuckles, straight razors, explosives, noxious irritation or poisonous gases, poisons, drugs or other items possessed with the intent to use, sell, harm, threaten or harass students, staff members, parents or community members, may be subject to expulsion.

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