

REGULATION OF DANGEROUS WEAPONS ON SCHOOL PREMISES

It is a violation of district policy and state law for any person to carry a firearm or dangerous weapon on school premises, school-provided transportation or areas of other facilities being used exclusively for school activities.

The superintendent is directed to see that all school facilities post "Weapons-Free Zone" signs, and that all violations of this policy and RCW 9.41.280 are reported annually to the superintendent of public instruction.

Dangerous weapons include but are not limited to firearms, sling shots, sand clubs, metal knuckles, daggers, dirks, spring blade knives, nun-chu-ka sticks, throwing stars, air guns, stun guns, and devices intended to injure a person by an electric shock.

The following persons may carry firearms into school buildings, as necessary, although students engaged in these activities are restricted to the possession of rifles on school premises:

- A. Persons engaged in military, law enforcement, or school district security activities;
- B. Persons involved in a school authorized convention, showing, demonstration, lecture or firearm safety course;
- C. Persons competing in school authorized firearm or air gun competitions; and
- D. Any federal, state or local law enforcement officer.

The following persons over eighteen years of age and not enrolled as students may have firearms in their possession on school property outside of school buildings:

- A. Persons with concealed weapons permits issued pursuant to RCW 9.41.070 who are picking up or dropping off students; and
- B. Persons conducting legitimate business at the school and in lawful possession of a firearm or dangerous weapon if the weapon is secured within an attended vehicle, is unloaded and secured in a vehicle, or is concealed from view in a locked, unattended vehicle.

Persons may bring dangerous weapons, other than firearms, onto school premises if the weapons are lawfully within the person's possession and are to be used in a school-authorized martial arts class.

Persons over eighteen years of age and persons between fourteen and eighteen years of age with written parental or guardian permission may possess personal protection spray devices on school property. No one under eighteen years of age may deliver such devices, nor may anyone eighteen years or older deliver a spray device to anyone under fourteen or to anyone between fourteen and eighteen who does not have parental permission.

Students who violate this policy are subject to district discipline policies, including the due process provisions regarding notification of parents. Students who violate the firearms provisions are subject to a minimum one calendar year expulsion, with possible case-by-case modification by the superintendent. The district shall also comply with federal protections for disabled students in the application of this policy.

The district may suspend or expel a student for up to one year if the student acts with malice, as defined under RCW 9A-04.110, and displays an instrument that appears to be a firearm on school premises, school-provided transportation, or areas of facilities while being used exclusively for school activities.

Personal protection spray devices may not be used other than in self-defense as defined by state law. Possession, transmission or use of personal protection spray devices under any other circumstances is a violation of district policy.

School officials shall notify the parents/guardians, appropriate law enforcement agency of known or suspected violations of this policy. Students who violate this policy shall be subject to discipline, including a one-year expulsion for a violation involving a firearm. However, the superintendent may modify the one-year expulsion on a case-by-case basis.

Cross References:

Board Policy 3240 Student Conduct
 3241 Corrective Actions or Punishment

Legal References:

RCW 9A.16.020 Dangerous weapons on school grounds
RCW 9A.16.020 Use of force--when lawful
RCW 9.91.160 Personal protection spray devices

RCW 28A.600.420 Firearms on school premises, transportation,
 or facilities--Penalty—Exemptions

Management Resources:

Policy News, October 1997 - Legislature also addresses
"LAL" firearms