

# District Policy & Regulations

## BOARD OF EDUCATION COLUMBUS SCHOOL DISTRICT

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### DANGEROUS WEAPONS

No one shall possess, use, go armed with, or store a dangerous weapon in or on school property, in school vehicles or any school bus, or at school-related activities. The term “dangerous weapon” means any object which in the manner it is used, is intended to be used, or is represented, is capable of inflicting serious bodily harm or property damage, as well as endangering the health and safety of persons present on school property, in school vehicles or in school buses, or at school-related activities. As used in this policy, the term “dangerous weapon” includes, but is not limited to, firearms, guns (whether loaded or unloaded) of any type whatsoever including air and gas-powered guns, knives, razors, clubs, electric weapons, brass knuckles, martial arts weapons, ammunition, explosive devices, and chemical agents (including pepper spray). The term “dangerous weapon” also includes any other object of substance which in the manner it is used or intended to be used or is represented, is capable of or likely to produce death or serious bodily harm.

When a student is determined to have or have had possession or use, to have gone armed with, or to have stored a dangerous weapon or firearm facsimile on school property, in school vehicles or school buses, or at any school activity, a report shall promptly be made to the parents of the student and to law enforcement officials. Disciplinary action will be initiated, to include immediate suspension and/or referral to the Board of Education for expulsion from school. Students with handicapping conditions and exceptional education needs will be disciplined in accordance with applicable State and Federal statutory and regulatory provisions. (Policy 2461.)

Further, any student found to have or have had possession or use, to have gone armed with, or to have stored a “firearm” on school property, in school vehicles or school buses, or at any school-related activity shall be expelled from school for not less than one year. The Board of Education may modify this expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis. Under this policy, the term “firearm” is defined by federal law and means:

1. 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.
2. The frame or receiver of any such weapon.
3. Any firearm muffler or firearm silencer.
4. Any destructive device.

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### Policy exceptions include:

- A. items pre-approved by the building principal as part of a class or individual presentation under adult supervision, if used for the purpose and in the manner approved;
- B. theatrical props used in appropriate settings;
- C. starter pistols used in appropriate sporting events.

This policy will be published annually in all District student and staff handbooks. Publication is not a precondition to enforcement of this policy.

Any other members of the public found to be in violation of this policy shall be referred to law enforcement officials.

120.13(1), (2)(m), 939.22(10), 948.60, 948.61, Wis. Stats.  
Gun Free Schools Act of 1994

APPROVED: 12/10/98  
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