

Board Policy

Code No. 502.6

DANGEROUS WEAPONS

The Board believes weapons, and other dangerous objects, or look-a-likes, in school district facilities cause material and substantial disruption to the school environment and present a threat to the health and safety of students, employees and visitors on the school district premises or property within the jurisdiction of the school district. For purposes of this policy, the term "weapons and other dangerous objects or look-a-likes," shall include any instrument designed or intended to be used in either an offensive or defensive manner.

School district facilities are not an appropriate place for weapons, dangerous objects and look-a-likes. Weapons and other dangerous objects and look-a-likes shall be taken from students and others who bring them onto the school district property or onto property within the jurisdiction of the school district or from students who are within the control of the school district.

Parents of students found to possess weapons, dangerous objects or look-a-likes on school property are notified of the incident. Possession or confiscation of weapons or dangerous objects will be reported to law enforcement officials, and students will be subject to disciplinary action including suspension or expulsion.

Students bringing a firearm to school or knowingly possessing firearms at school shall be expelled for not less than one year. The superintendent shall have the authority to recommend this expulsion requirement be modified for a student on a case-by-case basis. For purposes of this portion of the policy, the term "firearm" includes, but is not limited to, any weapon which is designed to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive or other propellant, the frame or receiver of any such weapon, a muffler or silencer for such a weapon, or any explosive, incendiary or poison gas. Students found in violation of the dangerous weapons provision will be referred to law enforcement.

Weapons under the control of law enforcement officials shall be exempt from this policy. The principal may allow authorized persons to display weapons or other dangerous objects or look-a-likes for educational purposes. Such a display shall also be exempt from this policy. It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the principal, to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy.

Legal Reference: *No Child Left Behind, Title IV, Sec. 4141, P.L. 107-110 (2002).*
Improving America's Schools Act of 1994, P.L. 103-382.
18 U.S.C. § 921 (2010).
McClain v. Lafayette County Bd. of Education, 673 F.2d 106 (5th Cir. 1982).
Iowa Code §§ 279.8; 280.21B; 724 (2011).
281 I.A.C. 12.3(6)

Cross Reference: 502 *Student Rights and Responsibilities*
 503 *Student Discipline*
 507 *Student Health and Well-Being*

Approved: January 23, 1995

Reapproved: April 23, 2001
April 6, 2004
March 5, 2007

Revised: May 18, 1998
April 7, 2003
August 6, 2012