

**BOARD POLICY: WEAPONS POSSESSION**

**8450**

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Section A – Introduction

It is the policy of the Board of Education to provide a safe environment for the students and staff. To that end, any student who has been determined to be in possession of a weapon shall be recommended for expulsion.

Section B – Jurisdiction

The provisions of this policy shall be in force:

1. In any physical area attendant to school or District-sponsored or related activities, whether or not such area is on school or District property (including but not limited to, school buildings and lands, District offices), or at any school-sponsored or related activities, performances, extracurricular and athletic events, school-sponsored travel at other venues; and
2. On means of school-supplied or sanctioned transportation to or from any of the above; and
3. With respect to activities or events at other locations, if the administration determines that the incident bears a nexus (i.e. impact or connection) to the school, safety at school, or is disruptive to the educational environment.

In addition to the above jurisdiction, the administration is authorized to establish a Code of Conduct that imposes progressive loss of privileges by reason of any conduct by a student in violation of these policies wherever the conduct or event occurs. Students who participate in extracurricular activities such as inter-scholastic athletic, drama, fine arts and other competitions or who participate in clubs and activities are representatives of our schools, and as such are expected to conform their behavior to these policies as a condition to continued enjoyment of these privileges.

Section C-Possession of a Weapon

For the purposes of this policy a student in possession of a weapon includes any student who is:

1. Determined to have brought a weapon within the Jurisdiction; or
2. Determined to be or have been in possession of a weapon within the Jurisdiction; or

3. Determined to be or have been in possession of a weapon which was brought within the Jurisdiction by another student, which weapon was given or possessed by the student to be expelled.

**Section D – Definition of a Weapon**

The term “weapon” means possession, use, control or transfer of:

1. Any gun, rifle, shotgun, firearm, or weapon as defined by Section 921 of Title 18, United States Code; Firearm as defined in Section 1.1 of the Firearm Owners Identification Act [430 ILCS 65/1.1]; or use of a weapon as defined in Section 24-1 of the Criminal Code [720 ILCS 5/24-1]; or
2. Knives, brass knuckles, or billy clubs; or
3. any other object possessed, used, or attempted to be used to cause bodily harm, or modified in a manner which is peculiar for use in causing bodily harm; or
4. “Look-alikes” of any weapon as defined in this section.
5. Objects such as automobiles, baseball bats, pipes, bottles, locks, sticks, pencils, pens, needles, pins, ice picks or other pointed or blunt objects for purposes of this section if used, intended or attempted to be used, or threatened to be used to cause bodily harm.

**Section E – Violations and Administration**

Violations of this policy will be referred to the Major Disciplinary Review Committee for disposition as a Category I offense in accordance with Procedures for Board Policy 8410: Disciplinary Action Relative to Student Misconduct.

A student who is determined to have violated this policy shall be referred to the School Board for ~~consideration for~~ expulsion for a period of not less than one year, ~~except that expulsion period may be modified by the Board on a case-by-case basis.~~ The expulsion requirement may be modified by the Superintendent, and the Superintendent’ determination may be modified by the Board on a case-by-case basis as outlined in 105 ILCS 5/10-22.6.d-2. Expulsion or suspension shall be construed in a manner consistent with the federal Individuals With Disabilities Education Act [20 U.S.C. Section 1400 et seq.].

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