

Weapons in the Schools**

Students shall not bring, possess, conceal, or use a weapon on or at district property, activities under the jurisdiction of the district, or interscholastic activities administered by a voluntary organization approved by the State Board of Education (e.g., Oregon School Activities Association).

For purposes of this policy, and as defined by state and federal law, weapon includes:

1. A “dangerous weapon” means any weapon, device, instrument, material, or substance that under the circumstances in which it is used, attempted to be used, or threatened to be used is readily capable of causing death or serious physical injury.
2. A “deadly weapon” means any instrument, article, or substance specifically designed for and presently capable of causing death or serious physical injury. Deadly weapons may include, but are not limited to, knives, metal knuckles, straight razors, noxious or irritating gases, poisons, unlawful drugs, or other items fashioned with the intent to use, sell, harm, threaten, or harass students, staff members, parents, or patrons.
3. A “firearm” means any weapon (including a starter gun) that will or is designed to or may be readily converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive, frame or receiver of any such weapon (i.e., body of the firearm), any firearm silencer, or any destructive device.
4. A “destructive device” means any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas component or any combination of parts either designed or intended for use in converting such components into any destructive device or from which a destructive device may be readily assembled. A destructive device does not include any device which is designed primarily or redesigned primarily for use as a signaling, pyrotechnic, line throwing, safety or similar device.

Replicas of weapons are also prohibited by Board policy. Exceptions to the district’s replicas prohibition may be granted only with prior building principal approval for certain curriculum or school-related activities. Violations will result in discipline up to and including expulsion.

Possession of any pocket knife at a school or school-related function is prohibited, whether or not the knife is a weapon and violators may be subject to suspension or expulsion. Prohibited weapons are subject to seizure or forfeiture.

In accordance with Oregon law, any employee who has reasonable cause to believe a student or other person has, within the previous 120 days, unlawfully been in possession of a firearm or destructive device as defined by this policy, shall immediately report such violation to an administrator, his/her designee or law enforcement. Employees who report directly to law enforcement shall also immediately inform an administrator.

Administrators shall promptly notify the appropriate law enforcement agency of staff reports received and at any other time there is reasonable cause to believe violations have occurred or that a student has been expelled for bringing, possessing, concealing, or using a dangerous or deadly weapon, firearm, or destructive device. Parents will be notified of all conduct by their student that violates this policy.

Incidents of students possessing weapons or realistic replicas will be reported to the student's parents and a referral to the appropriate law enforcement agency shall be made. Appropriate disciplinary and/or legal action will be taken against any unauthorized person who possesses weapons or assist possession in any way. Students found to have brought, possessed, concealed, or used a firearm in violation of this policy or state law shall be expelled for a period of not less than one year. All other violations of the policy will result in discipline up to and including expulsion and/or referral to law enforcement, as appropriate.

The superintendent may, on a case-by-case basis, modify this expulsion requirement. The district may also request suspension of a student's driving privileges or the right to apply for driving privileges with the Oregon Department of Transportation, as provided by law. Appropriate disciplinary and/or legal action will be taken against students or others who assist in activity prohibited by this policy.

The Board delegates its authority to expel students to a hearings officer. The superintendent has the authority to modify the length of any expulsion under this policy. The hearings officer will consult with the superintendent to determine such modifications prior to issuing the final expulsion determination. The student has a right to appeal the hearings officer's decision to the Board.

Expulsion proceedings for students who have individualized education programs or 504 plans will be in accordance with specific regulations and procedures as prescribed by law.

Weapons under the control of law enforcement personnel are permitted. The superintendent may authorize other persons to possess weapons for courses, programs, and activities approved by the district and conducted on district property.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 161.015](#)
[ORS 166.210](#) to -166.370
[ORS 166.382](#)
[ORS 332.107](#)
[ORS 339.115](#)
[ORS 339.240](#)
[ORS 339.250](#)

[ORS 339.315](#)
[ORS 339.327](#)
[ORS 809.135](#)
[ORS 809.260](#)

[OAR 581-021-0050](#) to -0075

[OAR 581-053-0010\(5\)](#)
[OAR 581-053-0230\(9\)\(k\)](#)
[OAR 581-053-0330\(1\)\(r\)](#)
[OAR 581-053-0430\(17\)](#)
[OAR 581-053-0531\(16\)](#)
[OAR 581-053-0630](#)

Gun-Free School Zones Act of 1990, 18 U.S.C. §§ 921(a)(25)-(26), 922(q) (2006).
Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), 20 U.S.C. §§ 1400 - 1427 (2006).
Youth Handgun Safety Act, 18 U.S.C. §§ 922(x), 924(a)(6) (2006).
Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act, 20 U.S.C. §§ 7101-7117 (2006).

Cross Reference(s):

JFCM - Violence and Threats of Violence
JGDA/JGEA - Discipline of Students with Disabilities