

Weapons in the Schools

No person, including employees, District contractors and/or their employees and District volunteers, shall bring, possess, conceal or use a weapon on or at District property or activities or at school sponsored events. This prohibition includes those who may otherwise be permitted by law to carry such weapons. 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 (including, but not limited to, hunter safety courses, weapons-related vocational courses or weapons-related sports).

For purposes of this policy, and as defined by State and Federal Law, weapons includes:

1. "Dangerous weapon" - any weapon, device, instrument, material or substance, which 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. "Deadly weapon" - any instrument, article or substance specifically designed for and presently capable of causing death or serious physical injury;
3. "Firearm" - 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, frame or receiver of any such weapon, any firearm silencer or any other destructive device including any explosive, incendiary or poisonous gas.

Weapons may also include, but not be limited to, knives, metal knuckles, straight razors, noxious, irritating or poisonous gases, poisons, drugs or other items fashioned with the intent to use, sell, harm, threaten or harass students, staff members, parents and patrons.

Replicas of weapons and pocketknives 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.

Prohibited weapons, replicas of weapons and pocketknives are subject to seizure or forfeiture.

Incidents of students possessing weapons 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 students who possess weapons and with students who assist possession in any way. Students bringing weapons to school will be expelled for a period of not less than one year. 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.

Employees in violation of this policy will be subject to discipline up to and including dismissal. Individuals contracting with the District and volunteers will be subject to appropriate sanctions. A referral to law enforcement may be made.

In accordance with the Federal Gun-Free School Zone Act, possession or discharge of a firearm in a school zone is prohibited. A "school zone", as defined by federal law means in or on school grounds or within 1,000 feet of school grounds.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

ORS 161.015	OAR 581-021-0050 to -0075
ORS 166.210 - 166.370	OAR 581-053-0010 (5)
ORS 166.382	OAR 581-053-0015 (7)(k)
ORS 332.107	OAR 581-053-0545 (4)(c),(w)
ORS 339.115	OAR 581-053-0550 (5)(y)
ORS 339.240	
ORS 339.250	
ORS 339.260	
ORS 339.315	
ORS 339.327	
ORS 809.060	
ORS 809.260	

Gun-Free School Zones Act of 1990, 18 U.S.C. Sections 921(a)(25), (26) and 922(q); as amended by P.L. 104-208, Section 101(f) (1996) and P.L. 103-322, Section 320904 (1994).

Education of the Handicapped Act of 1975, as amended, 20 U.S.C. Sections 1400-1427, as amended and renamed Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), P.L. 101-476, 104 Stat 1103 (1990), as amended P.L. 105-17 (1997). [P.L. 94-142 is a well-known "short" reference to this federal legislation.]

Youth Handgun Safety Act, 18 U.S.C. Sections 922(x) and 924(a)(6).

Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act, 20 U.S.C. Sections 7101-7117.