

Weapons in the Schools**

Weapons and replicas of weapons are forbidden on school property, except for those in possession of law enforcement officers.

In accordance with Board policy JFCJ and Oregon law, which provides Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 166.370 (when certain conditions exist—such as obtaining a concealed weapons permit), an individual is allowed to carry and conceal a firearm, including in public facilities such as schools. However, Sherwood School District employees and volunteers (even those in possession of a concealed weapons permit) shall not carry a weapon onto Sherwood School District campuses.

“Weapons” shall be defined as “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” (ORS Statute 161.015), and/or “any weapon which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by action of an explosive, the frame or receiver of any such weapon, any firearm muffler or firearm silencer or any destructive device.” “Destructive device” is defined as “any explosives, incendiary or poison gas component or any combination of parts either designed or intended for use in converting any device 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” (Federal Statute Title 18, US Code Section 921). A “weapon” may also include, but not be limited to: knives, metal knuckles, straight razors, irritating gas, replica of a weapon or another similar item used by an individual with the intent to harm, threaten or harass students, staff members, parents and/or patrons.

Students bringing a weapon to school or in possession of a weapon on any school property, at any school-sponsored event or at any event under the jurisdiction of the district shall be subject to discipline, suspension or expulsion, as appropriate.

In addition to the above, further disciplinary action may be sought against students bringing a weapon to school or possessing a weapon on district property or at district-sponsored events. The district may file with the Department of Transportation a request for the suspension of a drivers’ license or the right to apply for a drivers’ license if a student has been expelled for bringing a weapon to or possessing a weapon on district property or at district-sponsored events.

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.

Employees shall promptly report all other conduct prohibited by this policy to an administrator.

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.

Special education students shall be disciplined in accordance with federal law and Board policy JGDA/JGEA - Discipline of Students with Disabilities and accompanying administrative regulation.

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.

The district may post a notice at any site or premise off district grounds, that at the time is being used exclusively for a school program or activity. The notice shall identify the district as the sponsor, the activity as a school function and that the possession of firearms or dangerous weapons in or on the site or premises is prohibited under ORS 166.370.

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.

“Gun-Free School Zone” signs may be posted in cooperation with city and/or county officials as appropriate. Violations, unless otherwise excepted by law or this policy, shall be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

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