WEAPONS

A. The Board of Education will not tolerate the possession of weapons or any other device designed to inflict serious bodily harm by any staff member, volunteer, or member of the public while on district property, at a school-sponsored event, or in a school vehicle.

B. Federal law establishes a “Weapon-Free School Zone” that extends 1,000 feet from the boundary of any school property.

C. Any staff member or volunteer who is on district premises, in a school vehicle, or on property being used by the district for school purposes, and is found possessing weapons (other than lawfully transporting a weapon in a private vehicle) or other devices either designed or intended to inflict serious bodily harm, may be charged with a felony. This restriction also applies to staff members licensed to possess firearms unless serving as an authorized security officer. The district is authorized and reserves the right to conduct weapons searches in areas within the employee’s control, while the employee is on district business or on school property.

D. The term “weapon” means any object which, in the manner in which it is used, is intended to be used, or is represented, is capable of inflicting serious bodily harm or property damage, as well as endangering the health and safety of persons. Weapons include, but are not limited to, firearms, guns of any type, including air and gas-powered guns (whether loaded or unloaded), knives, razors, clubs, electric weapons, metallic knuckles, martial arts weapon, ammunition, and explosives.

This policy shall also encompass such actions as look-alike items, false fire alarms, bomb threats, or intentional calls to falsely report a dangerous condition.

E. The superintendent shall refer a staff member who violates this policy to law enforcement officials. The superintendent will refer any student who violates this policy to the student’s parents or guardians and to law enforcement officials. The students may also be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion. The staff member will also be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination, as permitted by applicable board policy and the terms of existing collective bargaining agreements.
Exceptions to this policy include:

1. Weapons under the control of law enforcement personnel

2. Items approved by an administrator as part of a class or individual presentation under adult supervision, if used for the purpose of and in the manner approved (Working firearms and ammunition shall never be approved)

3. A parent or legal guardian of a student of the school may carry a concealed weapon while in a vehicle on school property, if s/he is dropping the student off at the school or picking up the student from the school and any person may carry a concealed weapon solely in the parking lot.

4. A county corrections officer, a member of a Sheriff’s posse, a police or sheriffs reserve or auxiliary officer, or a State Department of Corrections parole or corrections officer, a private investigator, a Michigan State Police motor carrier officer or Capitol security officer, a State court judge, a security officer required by the employer to carry a concealed weapon while on the premises, a court officer, a parole, probation, or corrections officer or absconder recovery unit member of the Department of Corrections, if that individual has obtained a Michigan Department of Corrections weapons permit.

5. A retired police or law enforcement officer, a retired Federal law enforcement officer, or a retired State court judge, a retired corrections officer of a county sheriff’s department, if that individual has received county sheriff approved weapons training, a retired parole, probation or corrections officer or retired absconder recovery unit member of the Department of Corrections, if that individual has obtained a Michigan Department of Corrections weapons permit.

6. As allowed by Federal, State, Local ordinances and or laws.

F. The Superintendent shall take the necessary steps to prosecute for a violation of the Weapon-Free School Zone.

G. In the event that a visitor violates this policy and refuses to leave the property or take other action as directed by the administrator, the administration is directed to immediately initiate a lockdown of the affected school or area, consistent with the lockdown procedures. There are no exceptions to this mandate.

H. The Superintendent shall refer a visitor who violates this policy to law enforcement officials and may take any steps necessary to exclude the visitor from Board property and Board-sponsored events.
I. The Superintendent shall develop appropriate administrative regulations outlining notice
to staff and volunteers explaining the requirements and potential repercussions of
violation of the policy.

LEGAL CITATION: MCLA 380.1311, 380.1313, 750.237A
18OSCA - 921, 922
20USCA - 8001 (a)(1)

CROSS REFERENCE: 5610.00 Physical Assaults and Threats

POLICY

Adopted: April 16, 2002
Amended: August 23, 2011
Amended: September 20, 2016