
The board of education is committed to providing a safe school environment that is free from violence, to the maximum extent possible. Employees, visitors and other persons are prohibited from possessing, carrying, using or threatening to use, or encouraging another person to possess, carry, use or threaten to use weapons or explosives on school property or while attending curricular or extracurricular activities sponsored by the school. This policy applies to weapons or explosives carried openly or concealed.

Any employee who violates this policy shall be subject to immediate termination. Any visitor or other person who violates this policy will be escorted from the premises and/or school activity immediately. The superintendent or principal shall immediately report any violations of this policy to law enforcement officials. Any employee who is aware that a weapon or explosive is present on school property or at a school event must immediately report it to the superintendent or building principal.

A. WEAPONS AND EXPLOSIVES DEFINED

For purposes of this policy, a weapon includes, but is not limited to, any gun, rifle, pistol or other firearm of any kind; or any BB gun, stun gun, air rifle, air pistol, bowie knife, dirk, dagger, slingshot, leaded cane, switchblade knife, blackjack, metallic knuckles, razors and razor blades (except solely for personal shaving), fireworks, any sharp-pointed or edged instrument except instructional supplies, unaltered nail files and clips, and tools used solely for preparation of food, instruction and/or maintenance on educational property. For purposes of this policy, an explosive includes, but is not limited to, any dynamite cartridge, bomb, grenade, mine or powerful explosive as defined in G.S. 14-284.1.

B. SCHOOL PROPERTY

For purposes of this policy, school property is any school building or bus, school campus, grounds, recreational area, athletic field, or other property owned, used or operated by the board of education.

C. EXCLUSIONS

This policy shall not apply to:

1. a weapon or explosion used solely for educational or school-sanctioned ceremonial purposes, or used in a school-approved program conducted under the supervision of an adult whose supervision has been approved by the school authority; or
2. firefighters, emergency service personnel, North Carolina Forest Service personnel, and any private police employed by the school board, when acting in the discharge of their official duties.

Legal References: G.S. 14-69.2, -269.2, -284.1; 20-17; 115C-288(g)

Cross References: Weapons, Bomb Threats, Terrorist Threats and Clear Threats to Safety (policy 4333)

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Administrative Procedure: None