

**SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PITTSVILLE
BOARD POLICY**

STUDENTS

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

STUDENT CONDUCT

WEAPONS

WEAPONS ON SCHOOL PREMISES

443.6

Definition

A weapon is any object that by its design and/or use can cause bodily injury or property damage. A weapon is also defined as any facsimile firearm such as a toy, starter pistol, or other object that can be perceived as an actual firearm. As used in this policy, the term “weapon” included, but is not necessarily limited to, the following:

1. any firearm, including a starter gun, whether loaded or unloaded, assembled or unassembled, partial or complete;
2. any bomb, explosive, or similar destructive device;
3. any device which is designed, used or intended to be used to immobilize or incapacitate persons by the use of electric current;
4. any bb or pellet-firing gun that expels a projectile through the force of air pressure;
5. any poisons or dangerous chemicals, including pepper spray;
6. any ammunition;
7. knives and other cutting instruments;
8. any device designed as a weapon and capable of producing death or great bodily harm;
9. any other object which, in the manner it is used or intended to be used, is calculated or likely to produce significant injury or bodily harm; or
10. any other device or object defined as a weapon by state or federal law.

Weapons Prohibited

No person shall possess, store, or use any destructive device, firearm or other dangerous weapon ~~or look-alike~~ weapon (the possession and use of facsimile firearms and/or facsimile dangerous weapons is also prohibited):

- in school or other buildings/facilities owned, occupied, or controlled by the District;
- on the school grounds or on other premises owned, occupied or controlled by the District (including recreation areas and athletic fields)”
- while under the supervision of a school district authority, regardless of the student’s location;
- in district-owned-~~or contracted~~ vehicles or on any form of District-provided transportation; and/or
- while participating in or attending any District-sponsored program or event.

Exceptions

The building principal may allow weapons in the building for purposes of demonstration or educational presentations. This approval must be in writing and granted prior to the weapon being brought to the school. The weapon shall be maintained in the possession of the principal except during the actual demonstration or presentation.

The only exception to this policy is the possession and use of a facsimile firearm/weapon in a school-approved activity as authorized by the building principal or designee. This policy is not intended to prohibit the possession or use of potentially dangerous objects not designed primarily as weapons, provided that such objects have been issued or expressly authorized by the District, and provided that such objects are possessed and used exclusively for their limited and authorized purpose.

Violations

Students violating this policy shall be referred to law enforcement officials and be subject to school disciplinary action, up to and including suspension and expulsion, in accordance with established procedures. Referral to law enforcement is not required for violations involving solely a facsimile firearm/weapon where there was no attempt to threaten, harass, intimidate or harm another person.

Law enforcement officers will be contacted to the schools in a situation involving a weapon which presents an immediate threat to safety. If the situation does not allow an opportunity to contact law enforcement officials immediately, school staff and administration shall attempt to diffuse and control the situation in the safest manner possible until law enforcement officials can be summoned. Appropriate information and training shall be provided to staff in dealing with weapons situations in accordance with the school safety plan.

Notice

Students shall be informed of this policy annually through the student handbook and through any other means determined appropriate by the administration.

Legal References:

Wisconsin Statutes

Section 118.07	[school safety plans]
Section 118.31	[use of reasonable force to obtain weapons]
Section 120.13(1)	[board authority for rule-making and for suspension and expulsion]
Section 120.13(1)(bm)	[state law suspension mandate for possession of a firearm]
Section 120.13(1)(c)2m	[state law expulsion mandate for possession of a firearm]
Section 120.13(1)(g)	[board authority to modify expulsion mandate on case-by-case basis]
Section 943.13	[criminal trespass law, includes provisions related to carrying firearms]
Section 948.60	[possession of a dangerous weapon under 18 years of age]
Section 948.605	[gun-free schools zones]
Section 948.61	[dangerous weapons other than firearms on school premises]

Federal Laws

Gun-Free Schools Act	[student possession of firearms prohibited; student referral to law enforcement/juvenile justice system required in policy]
18 U.S.C Sec. 921(a)	[federal definition of “firearm” (including destructive devices) that is used within the Gun-Free Schools Act and within state law governing suspensions/expulsions for firearms – section 120.13(1)(c)(2m)]
Individuals with Disabilities Education Act	[programs and services for students with disabilities; includes authority to order change of placement for weapons possession]

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