# SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PITTSVILLE BOARD POLICY

### **PERSONNEL**

# GENERAL PERSONNEL POLICIES - STAFF CONDUCT STAFF USE AND POSSESSION OF WEAPONS

522.9

No employee of the Pittsville School District shall possess or use any destructive device, firearm or other dangerous weapon (as defined under <u>section 948.61</u> of the state statutes) of any kind, whether concealed or not concealed, at any time:

- in any school or other building/facility that is owned, occupied or controlled by the District;
- on the grounds of a school or on other school premises;
- in any District-owned vehicle or on any form of District-provided transportation;
- at school-related activities; or
- when acting within the scope of his/her employment.

The only exceptions to this policy are where state law prohibits a school district from restricting an employee's right to possess a firearm or other dangerous weapon in a location covered by this policy (e.g., an employee holding a valid license to carry a concealed weapon has limited rights to store a licensed weapon in his/her own vehicle, which rights are further restricted when the vehicle is located on school grounds). 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. It is also understood that school administrators and employees may sometimes have a need to temporarily take possession of a firearm or other weapon that is present in a school environment in order to address a violation of law or policy and to protect the health and safety of others. Temporary possession of a firearm/weapon under such circumstances shall be considered authorized and shall not be considered a violation of this policy. In such circumstances, the firearm/weapon should be stored in a secure manner until it can be safely turned over to law enforcement or other appropriate party at the earliest reasonable opportunity.

Law enforcement officers should be contacted to help deal with a weapons situation which presents an immediate threat to safety. If the situation does not allow an opportunity to contact law enforcement officials immediately, school staff 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.

Employees violating this policy may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination of employment, and may be referred to law enforcement officials for possible prosecution under applicable laws or ordinances.

This policy shall be published in employee handbooks.

#### **LEGAL REFERENCES:**

#### **Wisconsin Statutes**

Section 118.07 [school safety plans]

Section 120.13(1) [board authority for rule-making]
Section 175.60 [license to carry a concealed weapon]

Section 941.23 [carrying a concealed weapon]

Section 943.13 [criminal trespass law, includes provisions related to carrying firearms]

Section 948.605 [gun-free schools zones]

<u>Section 948.61</u> [dangerous weapons other than firearms on school premises]

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