

## **WEAPONS IN SCHOOL**

The Board recognizes the importance of preserving a safe educational environment for students, employees and patrons of the district. In order to maintain the safety of the educational community, the district will strictly enforce the necessary disciplinary consequences resulting from the use or possession of weapons on school grounds, buses or at school activities.

A weapon is defined to mean one or more of the following:

1. A firearm as defined in 18 U.S.C. 921.
2. Any device defined in § 571.010, RSMo, including a blackjack, concealable firearm, firearm silencer, explosive weapon, gas gun, knife, knuckles, machine gun, projectile weapon, rifle, shotgun, spring gun or switchblade knife.
3. Any instrument or device customarily used for attack or defense against an opponent, adversary or victim; or any instrument or device used to inflict physical injury or harm to another person.

In accordance with federal and state law, any student who brings or possesses a firearm as defined in 18 U.S.C. 921 or a device as defined in § 571.010, RSMo on school property or at any school activity will be suspended from school for at least one (1) calendar year or expelled and will be referred to the appropriate legal authorities. The suspension or expulsion may be modified on a case-by-case basis upon recommendation by the superintendent to the Board of Education. Students who use or possess other weapons defined in this policy will be subject to suspension and/or expulsion from school and may be referred to the appropriate legal authorities.

This policy shall not be construed to prohibit the Board from allowing a Civil War re-enactor to carry a Civil War era weapon on school property for educational purposes so long as the firearm is unloaded.

This policy will be submitted annually to the state Department of Elementary and Secondary Education along with a report indicating any suspensions or expulsions resulting from the possession or use of a firearm as defined in 18 U.S.C. 921. The report will include the name of the school in which the incidents occurred, the number of students suspended or expelled and the types of weapons involved.

Adopted: December 13, 1983

Revised: May 23, 1995

Revised: October 8, 1996

Cross Refs: JG, Student Discipline  
JGD, Student Suspension and Expulsion

Legal Refs.: §571.010, .030, RSMo.  
18 U.S.C. 921  
Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 as amended by the Gun-Free Schools Act of 1994

Pattonville, St. Ann (St. Louis County), Missouri