

STUDENTS

WEAPON-FREE SCHOOLS

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Any student who brings a weapon or simulated weapon onto school premises, except as provided below, may be expelled by the Board of Trustees, upon a recommendation from the Superintendent.

Any employee who observes *any person* in possession of a weapon or simulated weapon on school premises shall immediately report the matter to the school administrator. A school administrator who observes or receives a report of a student possessing a weapon on school premises shall immediately take appropriate safety and disciplinary actions in accordance with District policies and shall immediately report a violation of this policy to law enforcement if circumstances warrant.

A student who violates this policy by carrying or possessing a weapon may be placed in an alternative education program or expelled. The Board of Trustees, in its sole discretion, may modify disciplinary action on a case-by-case basis.

Any student subject to expulsion shall be entitled to a hearing before the Board in accordance with 20-5-202, MCA. Nothing in this policy may prevent the Board from making an alternative placement for a student in lieu of expulsion.

A student who violates this policy by any means other than carrying or possessing a weapon (for example, accessory, contributing) shall be subject to disciplinary action, including but not limited to expulsion. If a student violating this policy is identified as disabled either under the IDEA or Section 504, state and federal law procedures for changes in placement must be followed for suspensions of greater than ten days.

The Superintendent may grant permission for exceptions in writing for special activities.

For Purposes of this policy:

***Weapon** means any of the following:

- A firearm
- Any knife, regardless of blade length including utility knives and utility tools containing knives.
- A destructive device.
- A dangerous instrument.

***Simulated Weapon** means an instrument displayed or represented as a weapon.

- **Firearm** - means any of the following:

- Any loaded or unloaded gun that will, that is designed to, or that may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive.
- The frame or receiver of any such firearm.
- Any firearm muffler or silencer.
- Any explosive, incendiary, poison gas, bomb, grenade, rocket having propellant charge, missile having an explosive charge, a mine, or similar device.
- Any combination of parts that could be readily assembled or converted to form a firearm.

* ***Destructive Device*** - means:

- Any device other than a firearm that will, or is designed to, or may be readily converted to expel a projectile by any means of propulsion, such as a BB / pellet gun, slingshot / wrist rocket, bow, or crossbow.
- Any collection of parts that could be readily assembled to fashion a destruction device.

* ***Dangerous Instrument*** means anything other than a firearm, knife, or destructive device that is carried or possessed by a student for the purpose of being used or being available for use to cause death or inflict serious physical injury.

****Deadly weapon*** means any device designed for lethal use, including a firearm.

* ***School Premises*** - means the school, school grounds, school buses, school bus stops, or any premises, grounds or vehicles used for school purposes and includes premises where school-sponsored events (for example, athletic events and competitions, music competitions, field trips, etc.) are held away from District property and anytime a student is representing Bigfork School District #38.

Adoption Date: September 16, 1999

