

## Policy 5131.7: Weapons And Dangerous Instruments

The ~~Board of Education desires students and staff to be free from the danger presented by firearms and other weapons and recognizes that they have the right to a safe and secure campus free from psychological and physical harm~~Governing Board recognizes that students and staff have the right to a safe and secure campus free from physical and psychological harm and desires to protect them from the dangers presented by firearms and other weapons.

### Possession of Weapons

The **Governing** Board prohibits any ~~person other than authorized law enforcement~~student from possessing weapons, imitation firearms, or ~~other~~ dangerous instruments ~~of any kind, as defined in law and administrative regulation,~~ in school buildings, on school grounds ~~or buses, when using district provided transportation,~~ at school-related or school-sponsored activities away from school, or while going to or coming from school.

~~Unless he/she has obtained prior written permission as specified below, any student who is determined to have brought a firearm to school or possessed a firearm at school, as verified by a school employee, shall be expelled for not less than one year, except that the Board may set an earlier date for readmission on a case-by-case basis, in accordance with Board policy and administrative regulation. (Education Code 48915; 20 USC 7151)~~

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~~Students possessing or threatening others with any weapon, dangerous instrument, or imitation firearm are subject to suspension and/or expulsion in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulations.~~

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~~Under the power granted to the Board to maintain order and discipline in the schools and to protect the safety of students, staff, and~~If a student is in possession of a prohibited weapon, imitation firearm, or dangerous instrument which creates a threat or perceived threat of a homicidal act, any employee or other school official who is alerted to or observes such threat shall immediately report the threat to law enforcement.

Under the power granted to the **Governing** Board to protect the safety of students, staff, and others on district property and to maintain order and discipline in the ~~public~~schools, any school employee is authorized to confiscate ~~a any prohibited~~ weapon, ~~dangerous instrument~~ imitation firearm, or ~~imitation firearm~~ dangerous instrument from any ~~person~~student on school grounds.

The principal or designee shall notify law enforcement authorities when any student possesses a ~~weapon without permission~~firearm, explosive, or other prohibited weapon or dangerous instrument ~~without permission,~~ sells or furnishes a firearm, or commits any act of assault with a

firearm or other weapon. (Education Code 48902; Penal Code 245, 626.9, 626.10; 20 USC 71517961)

Unless a student has obtained prior written permission as specified below, a student possessing or threatening others with any weapon, dangerous instrument, or imitation firearm shall be subject to suspension and/or expulsion in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulations.

All staff shall be made aware of their responsibilities regarding the reporting of potential homicidal acts to law enforcement, and receive training in the assessment and reporting of such threats.

### **Advance Permission for Possession of a Firearm Weapon for Educational Use**

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**Purposes**  
A student who desires to possess or transport an imitation firearm

The parent/guardian of a student who desires to possess a firearm, imitation firearm, or other prohibited weapon on school grounds for an educational purpose shall request prior permission from submit a written request to the principal, at least five school days in advance of the planned possession. The student's parent/guardian shall provide written permission explaining which explains the planned use of the weapon and the duration. The student shall also submit, together with a written explanation from the staff person responsible for the school-sponsored activity or class:

On a case-by-case basis, the principal shall determine whether to grant permission for such possession when The principal may grant permission for such possession when it is determined that possession of a firearm, imitation firearm, or other prohibited weapon on school grounds is necessary for a school-sponsored activity or class or as part of the educational program. Factors that shall be considered include, but are not limited to, the planned use of the weapon, the duration and location of the planned use, whether an audience is expected, and any perceived adverse effects to the safety and well-being of students or staff. If the principal grants such permission, he/she shall provide the student and staff person shall be provided with a written explanation regarding any limitations and the permissible duration of the student's possession.

The principal and/or a staff member with knowledge of firearm safety shall inspect the weapon to ensure that necessary safety precautions have been taken, including inspection to ensure When the principal or designee grants permission, all necessary precautions shall be taken to ensure the safety of all persons on school grounds and the safe keeping of the weapon, including, but not limited to, inspecting a firearm to verify that no live ammunition is present. The firearm Any

~~permitted weapon shall be stored in a locked vehicle or in an appropriate, locked container before and after the educational activity.~~

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~~Acts authorized use:~~

~~Any student granted permission to possess a firearm weapon may be suspended and/or expelled if he/she possesses or uses the weapon the weapon is possessed or used inappropriately.~~

## Possession of Pepper Spray

**OPTION 1:** ~~(Districts that allow students to bring tear gas or tear gas weapons)~~

~~When accompanied by a parent/guardian or with the written consent of a parent/guardian, students age 16 or older may legally possess tear gas or tear gas weapons such as pepper spray for the purpose of self-defense. However, such students shall be subject to suspension and/or expulsion if such items are used inappropriately or for any purpose other than self-defense.~~

**OPTION 2:** ~~(Districts that prohibit students from bringing tear gas or tear gas weapons)~~

To prevent potential misuse that may harm students or staff, students are prohibited from carrying tear gas or tear gas weapons such as pepper spray on campus or at school activities.

## Reporting of Dangerous Objects

The **Governing** Board encourages students to promptly report the presence of weapons, injurious objects, or other suspicious activity to school authorities. The identity of a student who reports such activity shall remain confidential to the extent permitted by law.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop strategies designed to facilitate student reporting of the presence of injurious objects on school grounds, such as tip hotlines, electronic transmissions, or other methods that preserve the student's anonymity. Incident reports and records shall not identify the student who reported the possession. ~~The strategy shall also provide a method of informing~~ Superintendent or designee shall also inform staff, students, and parents/guardians that students who report the presence of injurious objects on school campuses are to be protected and their identity shielded.