

## **3217 - WEAPONS**

The School Board prohibits staff members from possessing, storing, making, or using a weapon in any setting that is under the control and supervision of the District for the purpose of school activities approved and authorized by the District including, but not limited to, property leased, owned, or contracted for by the District, a school-sponsored event, or in a District vehicle without the permission of the Superintendent.

The term "weapon" means any object which, in the manner in which it is used, is intended to be used, or is represented, is capable of inflicting serious bodily harm or property damage, as well as endangering the health and safety of persons. Weapons include, but are not limited to firearms (including, but not limited to, firearms as defined in 18 U.S.C. 921(a)(3)), guns of any type, including air and gas-powered guns (whether loaded or unloaded), knives, razors, clubs, electric weapons, metallic knuckles, martial arts weapons, ammunition, and explosives.

The Superintendent shall refer a staff member who violates this policy to law enforcement officials. The staff member will also be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination, as permitted by applicable Board policy.

Exceptions to this policy include

- A. Weapons under the control of law enforcement personnel;
- B. Items approved by a principal as part of a class or individual presentation under adult supervision, if used for the purpose of and in the manner approved (working firearms and ammunition shall never be approved);
- C. Theatrical props used in appropriate settings; and
- D. Starter pistols used in appropriate sporting events.

Any staff member who has reason to believe that a person has violated or will violate this policy shall report to the school principal or their supervisor immediately. Failure to report such information may subject the staff member to disciplinary action, up to and including termination. The staff member may also confront the person if the staff member believes the risk of injury to self or others is minimal or if immediate action is necessary to prevent injury to any person.

### **Possession of Pepper Spray**

The District is committed to maintaining a safe workplace for its employees.

No employee of the District shall possess or use pepper spray at any time, while on the premises of any school facility, on any school grounds, in vehicles owned by the District or at any school-sponsored function or event at any time before, during, or after school.

The only exceptions to this policy are:

- A. Any school employee who has attained the age of eighteen (18) and is scheduled (1) to be on the premises of any school facility, school grounds, or (2) in a vehicle owned by the District after the hours of 10:00 p.m. and before the hours of 6:00 a.m., may possess pepper spray, provided that usage is for self-defense or defense of another as allowed under Wisconsin State Statute 939.48.
- B. Any law enforcement personnel, acting in his/her official capacity, may possess pepper spray.

The pepper spray canister is to be kept in a locked location or in the possession of the employee and is to be removed from the premises upon the employee's leaving the school grounds.

Any employee violating this policy will be subject to discipline.

This policy shall be published and distributed to staff members annually. Publication is not a precondition to enforcement of this policy.

Section 120.13 of the Wisconsin Statutes (school board powers)  
18 U.S.C. 921(a)(3) (definition of "firearm" in U.S. Code)

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