

# FERNDALE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: WEAPONS

ADOPTED: APRIL 20, 1994

REVISED: MARCH 19, 1997  
DECEMBER 3, 2003  
OCTOBER 20, 2004  
MAY 9, 2007

<p>1. Purpose</p> <p>2. Definitions SC 1317.2</p> <p>3. Authority SC 1317.2 Pol. 233</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">218.1. WEAPONS</p> <p><b>The Board recognizes the importance of a safe school environment relative to the educational process. Possession of weapons in the school setting is a threat to the safety of students and staff and is prohibited by law.</b></p> <p>Weapon - <b>the term</b> shall include but not be limited to any knife, <b>cutting instrument, cutting tool, nunchaku</b>, firearm, <b>shotgun, rifle</b>, metal knuckles, martial arts weapon, straight razor, explosive, noxious, irritating or poisonous gas, poison, <b>replica of a weapon, and/or</b> other item fashioned with the intent to use, sell, harm, threaten or harass students, staff members, parents/<b>guardians</b> and patrons. <b>The term shall also include any tool</b>, device, instrument, implement, material or substance, animate or inanimate, which under the circumstances in which it is used, attempted to be used or threatened to be used is readily capable of causing death or serious physical injury.</p> <p><b>Possessing - a student is in possession of a weapon when the weapon is found on the person of the student; in the student's locker; under the student's control while on school property, on property being used by the school, at any school function or activity, at any school event held away from the school, or while the student is coming to or from school.</b></p> <p><b>The Board prohibits students from possessing and bringing</b> weapons and replicas of weapons <b>into any school district buildings</b>, onto school property, to any school-sponsored activity, and onto any public <b>vehicle</b> providing transportation to school or a school-sponsored activity.</p> <p>The school district shall expel for a period of not less than one (1) year any student who <b>violates this weapons policy. Such expulsion shall be given in conformance with formal due process proceedings required by law.</b> The Superintendent may recommend <b>modifications of such expulsion requirement</b> on a case-by-case basis.</p>
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<p>4. Delegation of Responsibility 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1400 et seq</p>	<p>In the case of a student <b>with disabilities</b>, the Superintendent shall take all necessary steps to comply with the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act.</p>
<p>SC 1317.2</p>	<p>The Superintendent <b>or designee</b> shall report the discovery of any weapon prohibited by this policy to the student's parents/<b>guardians</b> and to local law enforcement officials.</p>
<p>SC 1317.2</p>	<p>The Superintendent <b>or designee</b> shall report all incidents relating to expulsion for possession of a weapon to the Department of Education.</p>
<p>SC 1303-A</p>	<p>The Superintendent or designee shall <b>be responsible to</b> develop a memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement officials that sets forth procedures to be followed when an incident occurs involving an act of violence or possession of a weapon by any person on school property.</p>
<p>SC 1303-A</p>	<p>Acts of violence or possession of a weapon in violation of this policy shall be reported to the Office of Safe Schools on the required form at least once each year.</p>
<p>5. Guidelines</p>	<p><b>Students, staff and parents/guardians shall be informed at least annually concerning this policy.</b></p>
<p>SC 1317.2</p>	<p><b>An exception to this policy may be made</b> by the Superintendent, who shall prescribe special conditions or procedures to be followed.</p> <p>Weapons under the control of law enforcement personnel <b>on the premises on official duties rather than personal matters</b> are permitted.</p>
<p>18 U.S.C. Sec. 921, 922</p>	<p><b>In accordance with the federal Gun-Free School Zone Act, possession or discharge of a firearm in, on, or within 1,000 feet of school grounds is prohibited. Violations shall be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency.</b></p>
<p>SC 1317.2</p>	<p><u>Transfer Students</u></p> <p>When the school district receives a student who transfers from a public or private school during an expulsion period for an offense involving a weapon, the district may assign that student to an alternative assignment or may provide alternative education, provided the assignment does not exceed the expulsion period.</p>

School Code  
1303-A, 1317.2

PA Code  
Title 22  
Sec. 403.1

18 U.S.C.  
Sec. 921, 922

20 U.S.C.  
Sec. 1400 et seq

20 U.S.C.  
Sec. 7151

20 U.S.C.  
Sec. 7114

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