WEAPONS ON SCHOOL PREMISES

Policy 832

Waunakee Community School District

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No person, including someone with a state-issued concealed carry license, shall use or possess a firearm, whether loaded or unloaded, any destructive device, or other dangerous weapon (as defined under <u>section 948.61</u> of the state statutes or as defined as a weapon in this policy below) in school buildings and other buildings owned, occupied or controlled by the school district, on school premises, in school-provided transportation, or at any school-supervised and school-controlled activity, except as otherwise specifically authorized in this policy.

A weapon is any object that by its design and/or use can cause bodily injury or property damage, or any component of such an object. This includes, but is not limited to guns, including BB and pellet firing guns, firearm silencers, knives, razors, karate sticks, nunchaku, metal knuckles, chains, pepper spray/mace and other similar propellants, and similar items or destructive devices such as explosives or fire bombs. A weapon is also defined as any facsimile or look-a-like of a weapon or firearm such as a toy, starter pistol, or other object that can be perceived as an actual firearm. A weapon also may include physical actions or oral or written statements, which lead others to reasonably believe, or are calculated to induce a belief, that a weapon is present.

The following are exceptions to the policy prohibition:

- This prohibition does not apply where state law prohibits a school district from restricting any individual's right to possess a firearm or other weapon in a location covered by this policy
- Any qualified current law enforcement officer who is off duty or any qualified former law enforcement officer may possess a properly licensed firearm provided that the individual meets all applicable conditions specified in the state and federal gun-free school zone laws. Although permitted, the Board generally discourages the intentional presence of such firearms, and strongly encourages such individuals to notify the District Administrator, building principal, or other activity supervisor of their possession of any such firearm in order to avoid misunderstandings should the presence of the weapon be identified by another person.
- The building principal may allow a weapon on school premises for purposes of demonstration or educational presentations. This approval must be in writing and granted prior to the weapon being brought to the school. The weapon shall be maintained in the possession of the principal except during the actual demonstration or presentation.
- Firearms or other weapons used for hunting may be allowed on school property for hunter safety classes, but only during non-school hours and after approval, in writing, from the District Administrator. The person(s) conducting the hunter safety class will assume responsibility for the safe handling and care of the firearms/weapons, and see to it that all firearms/weapons are removed from the premises promptly after the class.

Employees violating this policy shall be disciplined in accordance with employee policies, agreements and handbooks and referred to law enforcement officials for prosecution.

Any other person violating this policy shall be referred to law enforcement officials for prosecution.

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The District Administrator or designee shall determine the appropriate means of informing students, employees and the public of this policy, including any specific notice(s) that are required under applicable law.

Legal References:

Wisconsin Statutes

Section 118.07 [school safety plans] **Section 118.31** [use of reasonable force to obtain weapon] Section 120.13(1)(bm) [state law suspension mandate for possession of a firearm] Section 120.13(1)(c)2m [state law expulsion mandate for possession of a firearm] Section 120.13(1)(g) [board authority to modify expulsion mandate on case-by-case basis] Section 120.13(38) [board authority to permit hunting in the school forest] <u>Section 175.32</u> [mandatory reporting of threats of school violence] Section 175.60 [license to carry a concealed weapon] **Section 941.23** [carrying a concealed weapon]

Section 943.13 [criminal trespass law, includes provisions related to carrying firearms]

Section 948.60 [possession of dangerous weapon under 18 years of age]

Section 948.605 [gun-free schools zones]

Section 948.61 [dangerous weapons other than firearms on school premises]

Federal Laws

Gun-Free Schools Act [student possession of firearms prohibited; student referral to law enforcement/juvenile justice system required in policy)

18 U.S.C Sec. 921(a) [federal definition of "firearm" (including destructive devices) that is used within the Gun-Free Schools Act and within section 120.13(1)(c)(2m)]

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act [programs and services for students with disabilities; includes authority to order change of placement for weapons possession]

Cross References:

WASB PRG 832 Sample Policy 2 447.3, Student Suspension 447.4, Student Expulsions 447.5, Discipline of Students with Disabilities 723-Rule, Emergency Plan Procedures

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