

# SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: STUDENTS

TITLE: WEAPONS

ADOPTED: April 28, 2011

REVIEWED:

<p>1. Purpose</p> <p>2. Definitions SC 1317.2</p> <p>18 U.S.C. Sec. 921</p> <p>18 U.S.C. Sec. 921</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">218.1. WEAPONS</p> <p>The Board of School Directors (“Board”) of Springfield School District (“District”) 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.</p> <p><b>Weapon</b> - the term shall include but not be limited to any knife, cutting instrument, cutting tool, nunchaku, brass or metal knuckles, firearm, shotgun, rifle, replica of a weapon, chemical agent such as mace, explosive device, and/or any other tool, instrument or implement capable of inflicting serious bodily injury.</p> <p>A <b>weapon</b> does not include any device which is authorized by the school for a legitimate educational purpose such as tools, scissors, compasses, pencils, implements for art class, and the like. Any student, however, using any such object in an aggressive, threatening and/or intimidating manner shall be considered in possession of a weapon.</p> <p>A <b>firearm</b> means the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Any weapon, including a starter gun, which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive.</li> <li>2. The frame or receiver of any such weapon.</li> <li>3. Any firearm muffler or firearm silencer.</li> <li>4. Any destructive device.</li> </ol> <p><b>Destructive device</b> means any explosive, incendiary, poison gas, bomb, grenade, rocket having a propellant charge of more than four (4) ounces, missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than one-quarter ounce, mine, or any device similar to any of the devices described above.</p>
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<p>3. Authority SC 1317.2</p> <p>SC 1317.2 Pol. 233</p> <p>4. Delegation of Responsibility SC 1317.2 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1400 et seq</p> <p>SC 1317.2</p> <p>Pol. 226</p>	<p><b>Possessing</b> - 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.</p> <p>The Board prohibits students from possessing and bringing weapons (which include replicas of weapons) into any school district buildings, onto school property, to any school-sponsored activity, and onto any public vehicle providing transportation to school or a school-sponsored activity.</p> <p>The District shall expel for a period of not less than one (1) year any student who violates this weapons policy. Such expulsion shall be given in conformance with formal due process proceedings required by law. The Superintendent may recommend modifications of such expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis.</p> <p>In the case of a student with disabilities, the Superintendent shall take all necessary steps to comply with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and follow Board policy.</p> <p>The Superintendent or designee shall report the discovery of any weapon prohibited by this policy to the student's parents/guardians and to local law enforcement officials.</p> <p>Any District employee or student who knows or ascertains that a student is in possession of a weapon in contravention of this policy shall immediately inform the building principal who shall conduct a complete investigation. A student who has knowledge that a weapon is in or on school property shall be subject to disciplinary proceedings if the student does not report this information in a timely manner to school personnel.</p> <p>Upon reasonable suspicion that a student possesses a weapon, the school official will conduct a search of a student's person, personal effects, locker and/or vehicle in accordance with School Board Policy 226.</p> <p>If a student refuses to permit a search, the building principal shall immediately summon the local police and request assistance. Parents/Guardians shall be notified as soon as possible.</p>
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Pol. 233	The building principal or designee shall coordinate the informal hearing procedure; conduct an investigation; secure written statements and anecdotal records substantiating the charges; and provide information and notification requirements for expulsion proceedings.
SC 1317.2	The Superintendent or designee shall report all incidents relating to expulsion for possession of a weapon to the Department of Education.
SC 1303-A	The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible to 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.
SC 1303-A	All new incidents involving acts of violence and possession of a weapon shall be reported to the Office of Safe Schools as outlined in Public School Code of 1949, Section 1303-A, Reporting.
SC 1317.2	<p>Students, staff and parents/guardians shall be informed at least annually concerning this policy.</p> <p>In accordance with School Code Section 1317.2, an exception to this policy may be made by the Superintendent, who shall recommend special conditions or procedures to be followed.</p> <p>Law enforcement officers may possess weapons on District property only when on duty with a badge and identification in view.</p>
SC 1304-A	<p><u>Information Upon Student Enrollment</u></p> <p>Prior to admission to the District, the parent/guardian of a student must, upon registration, provide a sworn statement whether or not the student was previously suspended or expelled from any public or private school of this Commonwealth or any other state for an act or offense involving weapons, alcohol or drugs, or for the willful infliction of injury to another person or for any act of violence committed on school property.</p>
SC 1317.2	<p><u>Transfer Students</u></p> <p>When the 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>

References:

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 1303-A, 1317.2

State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 403.1

Possession of Weapon on School Property – 18 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 912

Gun Control Act – 18 U.S.C. Sec. 921, 922

Individuals With Disabilities Education Act – 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1400 et seq.

Gun-Free Schools Act – 20 U.S.C. Sec. 7151

No Child Left Behind Act – 20 U.S.C. Sec. 7114

Individuals With Disabilities Education, Title 34, Code of Federal Regulations –  
34 CFR Part 300

Board Policy – 226, 233

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