

5010: WEAPONS (AP)

Approved: 98 03 10
Amended: 02 04 23

POLICY

The Board of Education believes that schools are purposeful places where students and staff must be able to work, learn and play without the threat of physical or psychological harm. The Board acknowledges its responsibility to ensure schools provide secure learning environments, which are safe from any form of threat, violence or intimidation.

The Board shall consider the possession or use of any weapon by anyone on or near school property or at a school event to be a serious threat to both students and staff. It authorizes administrative officers to impose immediate and appropriate consequences upon any individual threatening the welfare of students and/or staff.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

1.0 DEFINITION OF WEAPON

- 1.1 A weapon is defined as any instrument designed to inflict injury or intimidate another person or any instrument that is used in this manner.
- 1.2 Replicas of weapons, including toy weapons, are by their very nature intimidating and will be treated as weapons for the purpose of this policy.

2.0 PROCEDURES

- 2.1 The Board's policy on weapons will be communicated to students and parents at the start of each school year.
- 2.2 Where a school administrator reasonably believes that a person on or near school premises or at a school event is in possession of or has used a weapon, the administrator shall:
 - 2.1.1 immediately notify the RCMP and the superintendent or designate;
 - 2.1.2 make reasonable attempts to minimize risk of injury to any person;
 - 2.1.3 ensure that the weapon is confiscated and removed from school premises;

- 2.1.4 contact the parent/guardian and suspend the student; and
 - 2.1.5 file an Incident Report with the School Board.
- 2.3 The severity of the offence will determine the appropriate consequence.
- Consequences may include:
- 2.1.1 Suspension;
 - 2.1.2 Expulsion;
 - 2.1.3 Transfer to another school;
 - 2.1.4 Requirement for appropriate rehabilitation recourse e.g. counselling; and
 - 2.1.5 Laying of criminal charges.