

PENN MANOR SCHOOL DISTRICT

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION

APPROVED: July 2, 2012

REVISED:

218.1-AR-0. WEAPONS

Knowledge Of Weapon

If a student discovers, without a previous plan or knowledge, that s/he possesses a weapon in violation of Board policy, the student must immediately report that to a staff member. The student will not be in jeopardy of discipline, unless it can be shown that the student had knowledge of the weapon prior to his/her admitted discovery.

A student who has knowledge of possession of a weapon by another student must immediately report that to a staff member, who will immediately report the information to the principal. If the student does not immediately report this information, s/he will be subject to disciplinary action.

A district employee who has knowledge of possession of a weapon by a student will immediately report that to the principal or designee, while maintaining the safety and security of him/herself and the school community.

Weapons Investigation

When there is reasonable suspicion that a student possesses a weapon, the principal will conduct an investigation.

The principal or designee may conduct a search of a student or his/her belongings, including lockers, automobiles, purses, backpacks and clothing that complies with Board Policy 226 Searches and any applicable administrative regulations.

School authorities may use reasonable force to obtain possession of a weapon or other dangerous objects.

The principal or designee and district administration will cooperate with any police investigation of weapons possession by a student on district property; however, the administrator will not act as the student's informed adult in regard to any Miranda warnings issued by law enforcement.

The principal or designee will notify the Superintendent of the weapons incident and the actions taken.

The administration will report the incident to law enforcement in accordance with state law and regulations, Board policy and the procedures set forth in the Memorandum of Understanding with local law enforcement officials.

Possession Of A Weapon

A student is in possession of a weapon when the weapon is found on the person of the student; in the student's locker; and 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.

When a student is in possession of a weapon in violation of Board policy, the following actions will be taken:

1. The principal will suspend the student for up to ten (10) days.
2. The principal will inform and refer the incident to the Superintendent.
3. The Superintendent will assess the circumstances of the possession, including the type of object confiscated, intent of the student and threat or danger to the school community. The Superintendent may recommend discipline less than expulsion, on a case-by-case basis.
4. The district will expel the student for a period of not less than one (1) year.

Possession Of A Weapon By Student With Disability

When a student with a disability is determined to be in possession of a weapon, as defined by federal law, in violation of Board policy, district staff will take necessary actions to comply with the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and relevant Board policy.

The principal may remove the student from school for up to ten (10) school days, during which educational services are not required to be provided.

During that time, the IEP Team will convene to determine the program and placement of the student into an alternative educational placement for any period of time in excess of the ten (10) days, but not to exceed forty-five (45) calendar days.

During the period of alternative educational placement, due process may be implemented, and the IEP Team may convene to determine if the possession of the weapon was related to the student's disability.

The student may be subject to additional disciplinary action.

Exception/Permissible Possession

When a student requests to possess a prohibited instrument, tool, implement or weapon that will be used in an educational or vocational process or cocurricular activity, the student will:

1. Secure a written note from the instructor or sponsor verifying the need for and use of the specific instrument, tool, implement or weapon.

2. Submit a written request, with the instructor's or sponsor's note attached, to the principal requesting permission to possess the specific instrument, tool, implement or weapon on district property for the intended use only during an authorized time period, and submit a plan for transporting the weapon to and from the authorized activity in a manner that is acceptable to the district. This plan must be approved by the principal.
3. Upon receiving permission from the principal, the student will immediately inform the principal's office when in actual possession of the permitted object in the school.
4. Student will not be in jeopardy of discipline, unless the student uses the permitted object in violation of Board policy.

Weapons under the control of law enforcement officers are permitted, under the conditions stated in Board policy.