

**PREAMBLE**

The Board recognizes its responsibility in ensuring a secure environment for students and staff in which they will be safe from violence or intimidation. The possession, within the school environment, of any instrument designed to inflict injury or to intimidate another person, or the use of any instrument for the purpose of inflicting injury or intimidating another person, is a danger to all members of the school community and is detrimental to a positive climate.

**POLICY**

**THE BOARD SHALL CONSIDER THE POSSESSION OR USE OF ANY WEAPON BY ANYONE ON SCHOOL PREMISES TO BE A SERIOUS THREAT TO THE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT AND TO THE SAFETY OF BOTH STUDENTS AND STAFF. THE BOARD SHALL TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION OR LAY CHARGES AGAINST ANY INDIVIDUAL SO INVOLVED.**

**OBJECTIVES**

1. To provide a weapons-free environment in all schools.
2. To indicate the seriousness and hence the non-acceptance of weapons in schools.
3. To deter persons from possessing weapons on school premises.

**REGULATIONS**

1. When a principal reasonably believes that any person on school premises, without lawful excuse
  - a. possesses a weapon on their person or in any other place; or
  - b. uses a weapon for the purposes of intimidation or assault,that principal shall
  - a. make all reasonable attempts to minimize the risk of injury to any member of the school community; and
  - b. arrange for the removal of weapons from the school premises.
2. The principal shall report the matter to the R.C.M.P. and if appropriate seek their assistance. The duty of care for the rights of individual students involved must be

considered. Every effort should be made to secure evidence which may be required to support charges.

3. The principal shall make an oral report of the situation immediately to the Superintendent, or designate and follow it with a written report in full detail.
4. The principal shall, as soon as is practicable, notify the parent or guardian of any student involved in the situation.
5. The principal shall ensure that every effort is made to provide an opportunity for any student who is directly involved in a situation involving the possession or use of a weapon, to provide a written or verbal statement to the principal.
6. In considering any case involving the possession, within the school environment, of any instrument designed to inflict injury or to intimidate another person, or the use of any instrument for the purposes of inflicting injury or intimidating another person, brought before it by the Superintendent, the Board shall study the facts of the situation, the legal implications, and the various courses of action open to it under the circumstances. The Board shall choose the appropriate alternative deemed to be the most constructive for dealing with the case under consideration.
7. The principal shall ensure that this policy and regulations are brought to the attention of all students, parents/guardians and staff members on a regular basis.
8. For administrative guidelines related to the District Student Conduct Review Committee, see policy 5.10, *Administrative Guidelines for District Student Intervention Committee*.

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Date Adopted: 1989-10  
Date(s) Revised: 1992-06  
1993-07

Cross References: Policies 5.08, 5.10  
Statutory: School Act 74.01 (1)  
Criminal Code of Canada Section 2; 87  
Other: