

MIDDLETOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PROPERTY

TITLE: POSSESSION OF WEAPONS

ADOPTED: November 17, 2003

REVISED:

<p>1. Purpose</p> <p>2. Definitions</p> <p>3. Guidelines</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">715. POSSESSION OF WEAPONS</p> <p>The purpose of this policy is to prohibit employees and school visitors from possessing weapons on school property, at school activities, or on any vehicle providing transportation to or from school or a school activity, and providing for investigation and notification procedures in the event of a report of or suspicion of the presence of a weapon.</p> <p>The term possession of a weapon means a weapon is on the person of an individual or under an individual's control, on school property or at any school activity, including any school activity held away from the school property, or while the individual is on any school bus or public or private vehicle providing transportation to or from school property or a school activity.</p> <p>The term school property means all buildings, facilities, parking areas, athletic fields and grounds owned or under the control of the school district.</p> <p>The term school visitor means any individual who is present on school property, school vehicle or at a school activity, but does not include school employees or enrolled students.</p> <p>The term weapon shall include, but not be limited to, any knife, cutting instrument, cutting tool, nunchuck stick, brass knuckles, firearm, shotgun, rifle, air rifle, BB gun, pellet gun, or any pistol version thereof, chemical agent, OC/pepper spray, explosives or fireworks, or other such devices, and any other tool, instrument or implement capable of inflicting serious bodily injury. The term weapon shall also include items which are replicas or look-alike weapons, whether or not actually capable of inflicting bodily injury and whether or not sold as toys, if the item could by virtue of its appearance or the manner in which displayed cause reasonable apprehension of bodily injury or a threat to a safe school environment.</p> <p><u>Offense</u></p> <p>Any employee or school visitor in possession of a weapon, regardless of intent, has committed a violation of this policy.</p>
--	--

<p>Pol. 317, 417, 517</p>	<p><u>Procedures</u></p> <p>Any school employee who suspects or ascertains that an employee or school visitor is or has been in possession of a weapon in violation of this policy shall immediately inform the building principal who will conduct a complete investigation. Upon reasonable suspicion of an individual possessing a weapon, the principal (or other appropriate school personnel) may perform a weapon search of the employee or school visitor, his/her personal belongings, or vehicle, if applicable, pursuant to normal procedures for a search. In addition, the principal shall have full discretion to request intervention by the police to perform such searches or to take other appropriate action.</p> <p>Upon confiscation of a weapon, or confirmation that an employee or school visitor is or has been in possession of a weapon, the principal must immediately notify:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The local police.2. The Superintendent. <p>The Superintendent shall report such information regarding the violations of this policy, as may be required by law, to the Office for Safe Schools or the Professional Standards and Practices Commission of the Department of Education.</p> <p>Any employee in possession of a weapon will be subject to disciplinary action, including suspension or termination, to be implemented in accordance with normal disciplinary procedures. Employment will be terminated unless the Superintendent recommends a lesser penalty based on consideration of all of the facts and circumstances of the offense.</p> <p>Any school visitor in possession of a weapon will be required to immediately leave school property. The school district may prohibit or limit a school visitor's future access to school property or school activities for a violation of this policy.</p> <p><u>Exception</u></p> <p>The provisions of this policy shall not apply to the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Possession of a weapon approved in advance by the building principal and Superintendent, being used as part of a school program by an employee or school visitor who is participating in the program.2. Possession of a weapon by a law enforcement official or district security personnel, while acting within the scope of their official duties.
---------------------------	---

- | | |
|--|---|
| | <p>3. Employees who possess tools or other items (which may be used to inflict bodily injury) for the purpose of fulfilling their work-related responsibilities, if those items are not (i) used as a weapon; (ii) possessed with the intent to be used as a weapon; or (iii) displayed to cause reasonable apprehension of bodily injury or threaten the safety of the school environment.</p> |
|--|---|