

CHAPTER 5.00 – STUDENTS

POSSESSION OF WEAPONS AND OTHER PROHIBITED ARTICLES

5.321

No student while on school property or in attendance at a school sponsored function shall be in the possession of any article prohibited by law or rules of the school, or any article which could reasonably be considered as a weapon.

- I. Prohibited articles shall be defined as:
 - A. Firearms: any kind of gun (whether operable or inoperable, loaded or unloaded) including but not limited to hand, zip, pistol, rifle, shotgun, bb gun, starter gun, air gun, facsimile gun, antique gun, explosive propellant or destructive device;
 - B. Knives: any kind of knife, including but not limited to pen, switchblade or hunting knife;
 - C. Chains: any chain, not being used for the purpose for which it was normally intended, capable of harming an individual;
 - D. Pipe: any length of metal not being used for the purpose for which it was normally intended;
 - E. Razor blades or any kind of similar instruments with a sharp cutting edge;
 - F. Ice picks, dirks, or other pointed instruments;
 - G. Nunchakus, brass knuckles, Chinese stars, Billy clubs;
 - H. Electric weapon or device (stun gun);
 1. Any object or material deliberately used or intended for use to inflict harm upon another person, or used to intimidate any person.
 2. Weapons shall be defined in section 921 of title 18 of the United States code, and shall include:
 - a. Any weapon which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive;
 - b. The frame or receiver of any weapon described above;
 - c. Any explosive, incendiary or poison gas
 1. Bomb;
 2. Grenade;
 3. Rocket having a propellant charge of more than four ounces;
 4. Missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than one-quarter ounce;
 5. Mine; or
 6. Similar device.

CHAPTER 5.00 – STUDENTS

- d. Any weapon which will, or which may be readily converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive or other propellant, and which has any barrel with a bore of more than one-half inch in diameter; and
 - e. Any combination of parts either designed or intended for use in converting any device into any destructive device described in the two immediately preceding examples, and from which a destructive device may be readily assembled.
- II. Violation of this policy shall be considered a “serious breach of student conduct” and shall be grounds for immediate suspension and/or expulsion. In absence of mitigating circumstances, possession of a prohibited article as defined in section I of this policy shall result in expulsion from the school for a period of not less than one year. Mitigating circumstances shall be defined as: circumstances that do not constitute a justification or excuse of the offense in question, but which, in fairness and mercy, may be considered as extenuating or reducing the degree of moral culpability. Such circumstances may be reason for a milder punishment.
- III. Any weapon(s) or other prohibited article(s) found on school property or in possession of a student shall be confiscated by the principal. If the confiscated material is illegal, it shall be turned over to appropriate law enforcement personnel.
- IV. For the purpose of this policy, possession is defined to include on the student’s person, in the student’s locker or other student storage space, or in the student’s vehicle when parked on school property.
- V. For the purpose of this policy school property shall be defined to include school grounds, school buildings or school buses.
- VI. Students and staff involved in a training program through a vocational program or ROTC, which teaches proper use and handling of weapons, are exempt from this rule, provided possession is for training purposes only.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 1001.41(2), F.S.

LAWS IMPLEMENTED: 1006.07(6), F.S.

HISTORY: Adopted: 08/21/01
Revision Date(s): 05/07/19
Formerly: 7.310

NOTES:
Refer To: District Disciplinary Procedures Manual