

Students

Series 500

Policy Title Weapons

Code No. 502.6

The Marshalltown Community School District supports a “zero tolerance” concept toward weapons and violence in our schools. The Board believes weapons and other dangerous objects and look-a-likes in school district facilities cause material and substantial disruption to the school environment or present a threat to the health and safety of students, employees and visitors on the school district premises or property within the jurisdiction of the school district.

School district facilities are not an appropriate place for weapons or dangerous objects and look alike. Weapons and other dangerous objects and look alike shall be taken from students and others who bring them onto the school district property or onto property within the jurisdiction of the school district or from students who are within the control of the school district.

Parents or guardians of students found to possess weapons or dangerous objects or look-a-likes on school property shall be notified of the incident. Possession or confiscation of weapons or dangerous objects may be reported to the law enforcement officials, and students may be subject to disciplinary action including suspension or expulsion.

Students bringing firearms to school or knowingly possessing firearms at school shall be expelled for not less than one year. Students bringing to school or possessing dangerous weapons, including firearms, will be referred to law enforcement authorities. The Superintendent has the authority to recommend this expulsion requirement be modified for

students on a case-by-case basis. For purposes of this portion of this policy, the term “firearm” includes, but is not limited to, any weapon which is designed to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive, the frame or receiver of any such weapon, a muffler or silencer for such a weapon, or any explosive, incendiary or poison gas. Without limiting the examples or definition, the following instruments or objects generally are considered weapons within the jurisdiction of this policy: knives of all types, guns, hunting rifles, replicas of weapons, squirt guns, lead pipes, chains, nunchucks, throwing stars, metal knuckles, blackjacks, fireworks, or dangerous chemicals.

Weapons under the control of law enforcement officials shall be exempt from this policy. The Principal may authorize persons to display weapons or other dangerous objects or look-a-likes for educational purposes. Such a display shall also be exempt from this policy. It is the responsibility of the Superintendent, in conjunction with the Principal, to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy. Each student is entitled to due process including a Board hearing. Other procedures will address alternatives for continuing the student’s educational program as well as a transition plan back into school following either suspension or expulsion.

Adopted: June 27, 1994

Legal Reference: (Code of Iowa)

Reviewed: January 20, 2014  
December 18, 2017

No Child Left Behind, Title IV, Sec. 4141, P.L.  
107-110  
(2004). Improving America’s Schools Act of  
1994,

Amended: September 19, 1994  
November 27, 1995  
January 19, 2009  
January 20, 2014

P.L. 103-382. 18 U.S.C. § 921 (2004). McClain  
v. Lafayette County Bd. of Education, 673 F.2d

106 (5<sup>th</sup> Cir.  
1982). Iowa Code §§ 279.8; 280.21B; 724  
(2007).  
281 I.A.C. 12.3(6)

Cross Reference: 503.2 Student Expulsion  
503.1-R2 Student Expulsion  
503.1 Student Conduct