

## WEAPONS IN SCHOOL

### I. Generally

Carrying, bringing, using or possessing any firearm, dangerous device, or dangerous or deadly weapon in any school building, on school grounds, in any school vehicle, or at any school-sponsored activity without the authorization of the Superintendent or his designee is prohibited, and grounds for disciplinary action. The superintendent or superintendent's designee is permitted to give authority to possess a firearm on school property only to persons expressly authorized by statute to possess a firearm on school property.

Such weapons include, but are not limited to:

- Any pistol, shotgun, stun weapon, revolver, or other firearm listed in Va. Code § 22.1-277.07, designed or intended to propel a projectile of any kind, including a rifle;
- Unloaded firearms in closed containers,
- any air rifle or BB gun,
- toy guns and look-alike guns;
- any dirk, bowie knife, switchblade knife, ballistic knife, machete, knife or razor;
- slingshots;
- spring sticks;
- brass or metal knuckles or blackjacks;
- any flailing instrument consisting of two or more rigid parts connected in such a manner as to allow them to swing freely, which may be known as a nun chahka, nunchuck, cunchaku, nunchaku, shuriken, or fighting chain;
- any disc of whatever configuration, having at least two points or pointed blades, and which is designed to be thrown or propelled and which may be known as a throwing star or oriental dart;
- explosives; and,
- destructive devices as defined in, 22.1-277.7 or other dangerous articles.

### II. Expulsion for Possession of Firearms

A student who has possessed a firearm on school property or at a school-sponsored activity as prohibited by Va. Code § 18.2-308.1 or who has possessed a firearm or destructive device as defined in Va. Code § 22.1-277.07, or a firearm muffler or firearm silencer, or a pneumatic gun as defined in Va. Code § 15.2-915.4 on school property or at a school-sponsored activity may be expelled for at least one year in accordance with Policy JGD/JGE Student Suspension/Expulsion. The School Board may determine, based on the facts of a particular situation, that special circumstances exist and no disciplinary action or another disciplinary action or another term of expulsion is appropriate. The School Board may promulgate guidelines for determining what constitutes special circumstances.

### III. Children with Disabilities

- A. Students with disabilities are subject to the provisions of Section I of this policy and may be disciplined to the same extent as a non-disabled student provided the manifestation review committee determines that the violation was not a manifestation of the student's disability. The provisions of Policy JGDA Disciplining Students with Disabilities will be followed in addition to the regular disciplinary procedures.

B. Additional authority to remove a student with a disability from school for a weapons violation.

1. In addition to the authority granted in subsection A above, a student with a disability may also be removed without parent consent and assigned to an interim alternative education program by school personnel for not more than forty-five (45) school days when the student carries or possesses a weapon to or at school, on school premises, or to or at a school function under the jurisdiction of a state or local educational agency. This option is available regardless of whether a manifestation exists. The removal should not be in excess of any removal imposed on a student without a disability for the same offense.
2. For purposes of this forty-five (45) school day removal, the weapon must meet the following definition:

“a weapon, device, instrument, material or substance, animate or inanimate, that is used for, or is readily capable of, causing death or serious bodily injury, except that such term does not include a pocket knife with a blade of less than 2 ½ inches in length.”

**ADOPTED:** July 11, 2000

**REVISED:** November 13, 2007  
 August 12, 2008  
 August 9, 2011  
 August 12, 2014  
 July 14, 2015  
 February 9, 2021

**LEGAL REFERENCES:** Code of Virginia, §§ 15.2-915.4, 18.2-308, 18.2-308.1, 18.2-308.7, 22.1-277.07, 277.07:1, 22.1-280.2:4.

18 U.S.C. § 930(g)(2).

20 U.S.C. § 1415(k)(1)(G)(i).

8 VAC 20-81-10.

**CROSS REFERENCES:** GBEB Staff Weapons in School  
 JGD/JGE Student Suspension/Expulsion  
 JFC Student Conduct  
 JGDA Disciplining Students with Disabilities  
 JGDB Discipline of Students with Disabilities for Infliction of Serious Bodily Injury