STUDENT WEAPONS IN SCHOOL

1.0 Possession and/or use of a weapon by students is detrimental to the welfare and safety of the students and school personnel within the District.

2.0 Mandatory Expulsion in Accordance with State and Federal Law. Carrying, bringing, using or possessing a dangerous weapon on District property, when being transported in vehicles dispatched by the District or one of its schools, during a school-sponsored or District-sponsored activity or event, and off school property when the conduct has a reasonable connection to school or any District curricular or non-curricular event without the authorization of the school or the school District is prohibited. An exception to this policy may be made for students participating in an authorized extracurricular activity or team involving the use of firearms.

2.1 As used in this policy, “dangerous weapon” means:

2.1.1 A firearm, whether loaded or unloaded; (See Exhibit A)

2.1.2 Any pellet, BB gun or other device, whether operational or not, designed to propel projectiles by spring action or compressed air;

2.1.3 A fixed blade knife with a blade that measures longer than three inches in length or a spring loaded knife or a pocket knife with a blade longer than three and one-half inches;

2.1.4 Any object, device, instrument, material, or substance, whether animate or inanimate, used or intended to be used to inflict death or serious bodily injury including, but not limited to slingshot, bludgeon, brass knuckles or artificial knuckles of any kind.

2.2 The principal shall initiate expulsion proceedings for students who carry, bring, use or possess a dangerous weapon in violation of this policy. Unless expulsion is otherwise required by federal law, a student may, but need not be expelled if as soon as possible upon discovering that he or she is in possession of the dangerous weapon, the student notifies and delivers the weapon to school officials.

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2.3 Pursuant to federal law, expulsion of not less than one (1) year is mandatory for any student who brings a firearm to school. Exceptions may be made on a case-by-case basis as determined by the superintendent. Such exceptions shall be in writing.

3.0 Other Dangerous Items. School administrators shall consider violations of section 3.0 of this policy on a case-by-case basis to determine whether suspension, expulsion or any other disciplinary action is appropriate based upon the individual facts and circumstances involved.

3.1 Firearm Facsimile. Carrying, using, actively displaying or threatening with the use of a firearm facsimile that could reasonably be mistaken for an actual firearm on District property, when being transported in vehicles dispatched by the District or one of its schools, during a school-sponsored or District-sponsored activity or event, and off school property when such conduct has a reasonable connection to school or any District curricular or non-curricular event without the authorization of the school or the school District is prohibited. Students who violate this policy provision may be subject to disciplinary action including but not limited to suspension and/or expulsion.

3.1.1 A student may seek prior authorization from the building principal to carry, bring, use or possess a firearm facsimile that could reasonably be mistaken for an actual firearm on school property for purposes of a school-related or non-school related activity. A student's failure to obtain such prior authorization is a violation of this policy provision and may result in disciplinary action, including but not limited to suspension and/or expulsion. The principal shall, only after consultation

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with the district Security Services Manager, issue a decision to deny or permit a student to carry, bring, use or posses a firearm facsimile that could reasonably be mistaken for an actual firearm on school property, and such decision shall be final.

3.2 Knives and Sharpened Instruments. Carrying, bringing, using or possessing of any knife, regardless of the length of the blade, other instruments with sharpened blades or edges that might easily be used as a weapon, or any other substance or object, regardless of intended purpose, used in a manner that may render them dangerous to the user or others, on District property, when being transported in vehicles dispatched by the District or one of its schools, during a school-sponsored or District-sponsored activity or event, and off school property when the conduct has a reasonable connection to school or any District curricular or non-curricular event without the authorization of the school or the school District is prohibited.

4.0 Recordkeeping. The District shall maintain records which describe the circumstances involving expulsions of students who bring weapons to school including the name of the school, the number of students expelled and the types of weapons involved as required by law.

5.0 Referral to Law Enforcement. In accordance with applicable law, school personnel shall refer any student who brings a firearm or weapon to school without authorization of the school or the District to law enforcement.

LEGAL REFERENCES:
18 U.S.C. §921 (a)(3)
20 U.S.C. §7151
C.R.S. 22-32-109.1 (2)(a)(VII)
C.R.S. 22-33-106 (1)(d), (f)

CROSS REFERENCE:
Code: 8700

GUN-FREE SCHOOLS ACT
(Definition of “Firearm”)

Section 921 of Title 18, U.S.C. defines “firearm” as:

a) Any weapon (including a starter gun) 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 firearm muffler or firearm silencer; or
d) Any destructive device.

Section 921 of Title 18, U.S.C. defines “destructive devices” as:

a) 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) Device similar to the devices described in paragraphs 1-5 of this subparagraph a.