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I. *Authority and Purpose:*

*This Administrative Regulation implements Board Policy 902.18, which prohibits students from possessing or using weapons and dangerous implements on Board of Education property, including in school buildings or on school grounds, on school buses and other school vehicles, or during any school, school-related, or Board-sponsored activity.*

II. *Definitions:*

A. *Weapon:* *As used in this Regulation, the term "weapon" means, by way of illustration and without limitation, any loaded or unloaded gun (e.g. blank pistol, signal pistol, starter pistol, revolver, rifle, shotgun, stun gun, etc.); any knife (e.g. bowie, dirk, lock-blade, hunting, pen, pocket, switchblade, utility, etc.); any razor (e.g. straight, regular, retractable, etc.); any martial arts device (e.g. chinese stars, nunchaku, etc.); any ammunition (e.g. bullets, arrows, etc.); any implement which school administrative staff could reasonably conclude is capable of inflicting bodily harm (e.g. blackjack, chain, club, knuckles, nightstick, pipe, studded bracelet, etc.); or any other object which, by virtue of its shape or design, gives the appearance of any of the aforementioned.*

B. *Dangerous Implement:* *As used in this Regulation, the term "dangerous implement" means any object, tool, or instrument which is intended to cause harm to another person or which has been used in such a way as to intentionally cause harm to another person.*

C. *Alternative Educational Program:* *As used in this regulation, the term "Alternative Educational Program" may mean the Learning Center, evening school, home instruction, summer school, or other program of instruction offered by the Anne Arundel County Public Schools.*

III. *Procedure:*

A. *If a student is suspected of possessing or using a weapon or dangerous implement in violation of Board Policy, the student shall be referred to the*

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State Law: Educ. Art. §§4-107, 4-205, 7-304, 7-305(b), 26-101 Adm. Reg.

State Reg.: COMAR 13A.08.01.11

Neg. Agr.:

Federal Law:

Other Citation:

*principal. The principal or principal's designee will investigate and determine whether a violation has occurred.*

- B. Disciplinary procedures for students with disabilities who violate this Policy shall be administered in accordance with Chapter VII of the Anne Arundel County Public Schools Handbook for Special Education.*
- C. Use of a Weapon: Subject to restrictions under subsection B, any student found to have used a weapon or dangerous implement in violation of Board Policy shall be expelled.*
- D. Possession of a Gun: Subject to restrictions under subsection B, any student found in possession of a gun on school property shall be expelled from school for a minimum of one year.*
- E. In the case of a student enrolled in elementary school, if it has been established to the satisfaction of the principal that the student has possessed a weapon or dangerous implement (other than a gun) in violation of Board policy, discretion as to recommended duration of suspension and conditions for re-admission is vested in the principal.*
- F. In the case of a student enrolled in middle school or high school, if it is established to the satisfaction of the principal that a student has possessed a weapon or dangerous implement (other than a gun) in violation of Board policy, the principal shall, if possible, secure the weapon or dangerous implement, notify local law enforcement officials as appropriate; and notify the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee. The principal shall notify the student's parent(s) or guardian(s) of the incident and request that they come to the school.*

*Disciplinary action shall be taken as follows:*

- 1. The principal shall suspend the student for 10 school days and request that the Superintendent expel the student or place the student on extended suspension. (If the violation occurs after November 1, the requested suspension shall be through the second semester; if the violation occurs after April 30, the requested suspension shall be through the first semester of the following year.) The student or student's parent or guardian promptly shall be given a conference with the principal and any other appropriate personnel. The principal shall submit a written report to the*

*Superintendent.*

2. *The Superintendent shall, after investigation, determine whether expulsion or extended suspension is appropriate.*
3. *The student or the student's parent or guardian may appeal the Superintendent's decision to the Board within 10 days of the decision; be heard before the Board's designated committee; and bring counsel and witnesses to the hearing. Unless a public hearing is requested by the parent or guardian, a hearing shall be held out of the presence of all individuals whose presence is not considered necessary or desirable by the Board. An appeal to the Board does not stay the Superintendent's decision, and the decision of the Board is final.*
4. *In order for a suspended or expelled student to be re-admitted to school, the student must satisfy the requirements of the Board's policy and regulations on suspension and expulsion governing readmission. The students must also present evidence of participation in an anti-violence program or other behavior alternatives program. In addition, middle school students who have been expelled must successfully complete at least one semester in the learning center or other alternative educational program; high school students who have been expelled must successfully complete at least one semester in evening high school, summer school or other alternative educational program.*