

Weapons in the Schools

Students shall not bring, possess, conceal or use a weapon on or at district property and/or activities under the jurisdiction of the district or interscholastic activities administered by a voluntary organization approved by the State Board of Education (i.e., Oregon Schools Activities Association).

For purposes of this policy, and as defined by state and federal law, weapons include:

1. “Dangerous weapon” - any weapon, device, instrument, material or substance, which under the circumstances in which it is used, attempted to be used or threatened to be used is readily capable of causing death or serious physical injury;
2. “Deadly weapon” - any instrument, article or substance specifically designed for and presently capable of causing death or serious physical injury;
3. “Firearm” - 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 any explosive, the frame or receiver of any such weapon, or any firearm silencer;
4. “Destructive device” - any device with an explosive, incendiary or poison gas component or any combination of parts either designed or intended for use in converting any device into any destructive device or from which a destructive device may be readily assembled. A destructive device does not include any device which is designed primarily or redesigned primarily for use as a signaling, pyrotechnic, line throwing, safety or similar device.

Weapons may also include, but not be limited to, knives, metal knuckles, straight razors, compressed gas, air, or pellet rifles or hand guns, noxious, or irritating gases, poisons, unlawful drugs or other items fashioned with the intent to use, sell, harm, threaten or harass students, staff members, parents and patrons.

Replicas of weapons, fireworks, and pocket knives are also prohibited by Board policy. Exceptions to the district's replicas prohibition may be granted only with prior building principal approval for certain curriculum or school-related activities.

Prohibited weapons, replicas of weapons, fireworks, and pocket knives possessed on or about a person or in a vehicle controlled by a student while on district property are subject to seizure or forfeiture.

In accordance with Oregon law, any employee who has reasonable cause to believe a student or other person has, within the previous 120 days, unlawfully been in possession of a firearm or destructive device as defined by this policy, shall immediately report such violation to an administrator, or his/her designee.

Administrators shall promptly notify the appropriate law enforcement agency of staff reports received and at any other time there is reasonable cause to believe violations have occurred or that a student has been expelled for bringing, possessing, concealing or using a dangerous or deadly weapon, firearm or destructive device. Parents will be notified of all conduct by their student that violates this policy.

Employees shall promptly report all other conduct prohibited by this policy to an administrator.

Students found to have brought, possessed, concealed or used a dangerous or deadly weapon, firearm, or destructive device in violation of this policy shall be expelled for a period of not less than one year. All other violations of the policy will result in discipline up to and including expulsion and/or referral to law enforcement as appropriate. The Board of Directors may, on a case-by-case basis, modify this expulsion requirement. The district may also request suspension of a student’s driving privileges or the right to apply for driving privileges with the Oregon Department of Transportation.

Weapons under the control of law enforcement personnel are permitted. The Board of Directors may authorize other persons to possess weapons for courses, programs and activities approved by the district and conducted on district property.

The district may post a notice at any site or premise off district grounds, that at the time is being used exclusively for a school program or activity. The notice shall identify the district as the sponsor, the activity as a school function and that the possession of firearms or dangerous weapons in or on the site or premises is prohibited under ORS 166.370.

In accordance with the federal Gun-Free School Zone Act, possession or discharge of a firearm in a school zone is prohibited. A “school zone,” as defined by federal law, means in or on school grounds or within 1,000 feet of school grounds.

“Gun-Free School Zone” signs may be posted in cooperation with city and/or country officials as appropriate. Violations, unless otherwise excepted by law or this policy, shall be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

END OF POLICY

Legal References:	ORS 809.260
ORS 161.015	OAR 581-021-0050 to -0075
ORS 166.210 - 166.370	OAR 581-053-0010 (5)
ORS 166.382	OAR 581-053-0015 (7) (k)
ORS 332.107	OAR 581-053-0545 (4) (c) (w)
ORS 339.115	OAR 581-053-0550 (5) (y)
ORS 339.240	Senate Bill 344
ORS 339.250	Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities
ORS 339.260	Act, 20 U.S.C. Sections 7101-7117.
ORS 809.060	