

SOUHEGAN COOPERATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT
SAFE SCHOOL ZONE POLICY
PROHIBITION OF WEAPONS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

It is the policy of the School District that all school buildings, premises, bus stops and routes and associated areas shall be safe environments for students, free of danger posed by the presence of weapons or conduct which threatens harm by means of weapons or objects used as weapons. It is the policy of the School District that the provisions of RSA 193-D, Safe School Zone law, be carried out in all respects. Should any portion of this policy conflict with state law or regulations issued pursuant thereto, it is the intention of the School District that its policy be read in such a manner that it conforms to such law or regulation.

Weapons are not permitted on school property at any time without the advance written authorization of the Superintendent of Schools. Visitors, school employees, students and all other persons are strictly prohibited from bringing any weapon, whether visible or concealed, into any school building, onto school property, to a bus stop, on a school bus, to any school-sponsored event, or in any vehicle used to transport students to or from such events. The only persons who are exempt from this policy are law enforcement personnel.

No person(s) shall aid, abet, or otherwise assist another person(s) in possessing, bringing or concealing any weapon on school property or in buses or other vehicles used to transport students.

The term "weapons" includes, but is not limited to, firearms (rifles, pistols, revolvers, pellet guns, BB guns, etc.), knives, slingshots, metallic knuckles, firecrackers, billies, stilettos, switchblade knives, sword canes, pistol canes, black jacks, daggers, or any other substance, object or thing which, in the manner it is used, or threatened to be used, is known to be capable of producing death or bodily injury. Replicas of weapons may be treated as dangerous weapons within this policy if they are used to frighten, threaten, intimidate or otherwise harm any person.

A violation of this policy by any person, with respect to any weapon, will result in an immediate report to the principal, who shall notify the police. A student violation of this policy will result, at minimum, in immediate confiscation of the weapon, notice to the student's parents or guardians, and disciplinary action. If the student violation specifically involves a firearm as defined in the statutes, the School Board shall expel that student from school in accordance with the mandates of RSA 193:13 III, and the federal Gun-Free Schools Act of 1994. The expulsion shall be subject to review by the school board if requested 30 calendar days prior to the start of each school year or after the student serves six months of the expulsion. Further, a parent or guardian or student 18 years of age or older has the right to appeal any expulsion by the School Board to the State Board of Education.

- JFCJ-R1: This policy incorporates the definition of “act of theft, destruction, or violence” and other definitions set forth in RSA 193-D:1.
- JFCJ-R2: This policy incorporates PART Ed 317, Discipline and Due Process in Safe School Zones, New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules.
- JFCJ-R3: This policy incorporates detailed hearing procedures for long-term suspension and expulsion.
- JFCJ-R4: This policy incorporates a student notification procedure.
- JFCJ-R5: This policy incorporates a student request for Review of School Expulsion Decision.

ORIGINAL: December 1994
REVISED: _____ 1997