

POLICY

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

File Code:5131.7

WEAPONS AND DANGEROUS INSTRUMENTS

The board of education prohibits the possession and/or use of firearms, other weapons, or instruments which can be used as weapons on school property, on a school bus, at any school function, or while enroute to or from school or any school function.

For the purpose of this policy "weapon" includes but is not limited to those items enumerated in N.J.S.A. 2C:39-1r. The chief school administrator shall make the final determination that a particular object is a dangerous instrument in any case where there is a question of its possession or use posing a threat to students, staff or property.

Any pupil who is convicted or adjudicated delinquent for possession of a firearm or a crime while armed with a firearm or found knowingly in possession of a firearm on any school property, on a school bus, or at a school-based function shall be immediately removed from the school's regular education program pending a hearing before the board to remove the pupil from the regular education program for a period of not less than one calendar year.

The chief school administrator shall be responsible for the removal of such a pupil. The chief school administrator may modify a pupil's removal on a case-by-case basis. The chief school administrator shall also notify the appropriate law enforcement agency of a possible violation of the New Jersey Code of Criminal Justice.

A student found or observed on school property or at a school event in possession of a weapon or dangerous instrument other than a firearm shall be reported to the chief school administrator immediately. The chief school administrator shall immediately inform the appropriate law enforcement official with all known information concerning the matter, including the identity of the pupil involved.

The chief school administrator shall determine at the end of the year whether the student is prepared to return to the regular education program in accordance with procedures established by the Commissioner of Education.

Disciplinary action shall be taken against students who possess, handle, transmit or use firearms, other weapons, or dangerous instruments. Classified students shall be disciplined in accordance with their IEP and in compliance with law and administrative code. As in all disciplinary cases, due process will be provided (see policies 5114 Suspension and Expulsion and 5131 Conduct/Discipline).

A violence and vandalism report shall be filed whenever a student is found to be in possession of a firearm, other weapon, or dangerous instrument.

Remotely Activated Paging Devices (Beepers) & Cellular Phones

No student shall bring or possess a remotely activated paging device or cellular phone on any property used for school purposes without the permission of the chief school administrator.

Implementation

The board directs the chief school administrator to develop regulations to implement this policy.

Date adopted: 2/11/02

BOE Reviewed: 5/18/09