

STUDENT SERVICES

File: JFCD-R

WEAPONS IN SCHOOL

1. Carrying, bringing, using or possessing any firearm, dangerous device, or dangerous or deadly weapon in any school building, on school grounds, in any school vehicle or at any school-sponsored activity without the authorization of the school or the school division shall be prohibited, and grounds for disciplinary action. Specific information is found in the [Student Code of Conduct](#).
2. The disciplinary sanction for bringing a firearm to school or to a school-sponsored activity is expulsion for at least one year in accordance with [Policy JGD/JGE](#).
3. The principal shall initiate disciplinary proceedings for any student suspected of being in violation of these regulations.
4. For the purpose of these regulations weapons requiring a one-year expulsion include, but are not limited to:
 - any pistol, shotgun, stun weapon, revolver, or other firearm listed in section 22.1-277.07(E), of the Code of Virginia, designed or intended to propel a projectile of any kind, including a rifle,
 - unloaded firearms in closed containers,
 - any air rifle or BB gun,
 - toy guns and look-alike guns,
 - any dirk, bowie knife, switchblade knife, ballistic knife, machete, knife or razor,
 - slingshots,
 - spring sticks,
 - brass or metal knuckles, blackjacks,
 - any flailing instrument consisting of two or more rigid parts connected in such a manner as to allow them to swing freely, which may be known as a nun chahka, nun chuck, nunchaku, shuriken, or fighting chain,
 - any disc, of whatever configuration, having at least two points or pointed blades, and
which is designed to be thrown or propelled and which may be known as a throwing star or oriental dart,
 - explosives, and
 - destructive devices as defined in section 22.1-277.07(E), of the Code of Virginia, or other dangerous articles.
5. The disciplinary committee of the School Board shall review each case of a student with a weapons' violation. While an expulsion is expected for all cases, the Board may determine following a review that a more appropriate consequence is available.

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Students with Disabilities

1. Students with disabilities are subject to the provisions of these regulations and may be disciplined to the same extent as a nondisabled student provided the manifestation review committee determines that the violation was not a manifestation of the student's disability.
2. The principal shall contact the special education coordinator assigned to the school to assist with the manifestation review committee prior to making any disciplinary decision that may result in a long-term suspension or expulsion by the School Board.
3. The provisions of [Policy JGDA](#) (Discipline for Student with Disabilities) will be followed in addition to the regular disciplinary procedures.
 - A. Additional authority to remove a student with a disability from school for a weapons violation.
 1. In addition to the authority granted for all students, a student with a disability may also be removed without parent consent and assigned to an interim alternative education program by school personnel for not more than forty-five (45) school days when the student carries or possesses a weapon to or at school, on school premises, or to or at a school function under the jurisdiction of a state or local educational agency. This option is available regardless of whether a manifestation exists. The removal should not be in excess of any removal imposed on a student without a disability for the same offense.
 2. For purposes of this forty-five (45) school day removal, the weapon must meet the following definition:

“a weapon, device, instrument, material or substance, animate or inanimate, that is used for, or is readily capable of, causing death or serious bodily injury, except that such term does not include a pocket knife with a blade of less than 2 ½ inches in length.”

Issued: August 17, 2009

Revised: January 10, 2011

Revised: July 5, 2011

Legal References.: 18 U.S.C. § 930(g)(2).
20 U.S.C. § 1415(k)(1)(G)(i).

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Code of Virginia, §§18.2-308, 18.2-308.1, 18.2-308.7, 22.1-277.07, 277.07:1.

Wood v. Henry County Public Schools, 255 Va. 85, 495 S.E.2d 255 (1998).
8 VAC 20-81-10

Cross References.:	JGD/JGE	Student Suspension/Expulsion
	JFC	Student Conduct
	JGDA	Disciplining Students with Disabilities
	JGDB	Discipline of Students with Disabilities for Infliction of Serious Bodily Injury