

WEAPONS BAN POLICY

OBJECTIVE

To provide a safe and secure school environment and to comply with provisions of Act 26 of 1995 prohibiting weapons on school property, in school vehicles, in student vehicles, at school-sponsored activities on or off school property, when walking to and from school and at school bus-van stops.

Weapons and replicas of weapons shall include, but are not limited to, firearms, knives, metal knuckles, chains, razors, razor blades, explosives, cutting tools, pistols, shotguns, rifles, nunchaku, and noxious, irritating or poisonous gases or any other tool or instrument capable of inflicting bodily injury as determined by school officials. Weapons as described in this policy are forbidden on school property, in vehicles driven to school by students and parked on or off school property, at school-sponsored activities anywhere, when walking to and from school, at school bus-van stops, and in school busses and vans or other vehicles.

Students who violate this policy will be expelled from school for a minimum of one year from the date the student was found guilty. Disabled students found guilty will be disciplined in accordance with provisions of the Individuals with Disability Act and Basic Education Circular I-95, Pennsylvania Department of Education.

The Superintendent will review each alleged violation of this policy and will exercise discretion for expulsion on a case-by-case basis.

All acts of violence and possession of weapons as defined in this policy shall be reported to parents of the violator, appropriate law enforcement agency and the Office of Safe Schools, Department of Education. Such reporting requirements for individual schools and the District shall be made twice per year as mandated in Section 1303-A of Act 26 of 1995.

Prior to admission to the Mifflin County School District, the parent, guardian or other person having control or charge of a student shall, upon registration, provide a sworn statement or affirmation stating whether the pupil was previously suspended or expelled from any public or private school of this Commonwealth or any other state for an act or offense involving weapons, alcohol or drugs, or the willful infliction of injury to another person or for any act of violence committed on school property. The registration shall be maintained as part of the student's disciplinary record. Any willful false statement made under this section (1304-A) shall be a misdemeanor of the third degree.

Whenever a pupil transfers to another school entity from the Mifflin County School District, a certified copy of the student's disciplinary record shall be transmitted upon request to the school entity to which the pupil has transferred. The school entity to which the student has transferred should request the record. The sending school entity shall have ten (10) days from receipt of the request to supply a certified copy of the student's disciplinary record.

A student's disciplinary record as well as records maintained under Section 1307-A (Maintenance of Records) shall be available for inspections to the student and his parents or other person having control or charge of the student, to school officials and to State and local law enforcement officials as provided by law. Permission of the parent, guardian or other person have control or charge of the student shall not be required for transfer of the individual student's record to another school entity within this Commonwealth or in another state in which the student seeks enrollment or is enrolled.

The Mifflin County School District shall maintain updated records of all incidents of violence, incidents involving possession of a weapon, as described in this policy, and convictions or adjudications of delinquency for acts committed on school property by students enrolled therein on both a district-wide and school-by-school basis.