FOX CHAPEL AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: WEAPONS

ADOPTED: May 10, 2010

REVISED: September 9, 2013

218.1. WEAPONS

1. Purpose

The Board recognizes the importance of a safe school environment relative to the educational process. Possession of weapons in the school setting is a threat to the safety of students and staff and is prohibited by law.

2. Definitions SC 1301-A, 1317.2

Weapon - the term shall include but not be limited to any knife, cutting instrument, cutting tool, nunchaku stick, firearm, shotgun, rifle, replica of a weapon, brass or metal knuckles, chemical agent such as mace, explosive devices including but not limited to pipe bombs, and/or any other tool, instrument or implement capable of inflicting serious bodily injury.

Firearm includes actual firearms of any type, pellet guns, BB guns, and look-alike firearms, whether capable of operation and whether loaded or unloaded.

Possessing - a student is in possession of a weapon when the weapon is found on the person of the student; in the student's locker; directly or indirectly under the student's control while on school property, on property being used by the school, at any school function or activity, at any school event held away from the school, or while the student is coming to or from school.

3. Authority SC 1317.2 Pol. 218

The Board prohibits students from possessing and bringing weapons and replicas of weapons into any school district buildings, onto school property, to any school-sponsored activity, and onto any public vehicle providing transportation to school or a school-sponsored activity.

SC 1317.2 Pol. 233 The school district shall expel for a period of not less than one (1) year any student who violates this weapons policy. Such expulsion shall be given in conformance with formal due process proceedings required by law. The Superintendent may recommend modifications of such expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis.

218.1. WEAPONS - Pg. 2

	SC 1317.2 Title 22 Sec. 10.23 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1400 et seq Pol. 103.1, 113.1, 113.2, 805.1	In the case of a student with a disability, including a student for whom an evaluation is pending, the district shall take all steps required to comply with state and federal laws and regulations, the procedures set forth in the memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement and Board policies.
		Every school employee and/or student who has knowledge of a weapon being in or on school property shall immediately inform the principal, who will immediately conduct an investigation. A student who has knowledge of a weapon being in or on school property shall be subject to disciplinary proceedings if the student does not make a timely report.
	Pol. 225	Upon reasonable suspicion that a student possesses a weapon, the principal may request help from the local police, or at his/her discretion may conduct a search. If a weapon is found and confiscated, the principal will immediately notify and/or summon the local police, the Superintendent, and the parents/guardians of the student.
4.	Delegation of Responsibility Title 22 Sec. 10.2, 10.25 Pol. 805.1	The Superintendent or designee shall report the discovery of any weapon prohibited by this policy to the student's parent/guardian and to local law enforcement officials. All incidents relating to expulsion for possession of a weapon shall be reported to the Department of Education by the Superintendent or designee.
	SC 1302.1-A Pol. 805.1	The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible to develop a memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement officials that sets forth procedures to be followed when an incident occurs involving an act of violence or possession of a weapon by any person on school property.
	SC 1303-A	Acts of violence or possession of a weapon in violation of this policy shall be reported to the Office of Safe Schools on the required form at least once each year.
5.	Guidelines	Students, staff and parents/guardians shall be informed at least annually concerning this policy.
	SC 1317.2	An exception to this policy may be made by the Superintendent, who shall prescribe special conditions or procedures to be followed. A weapon possessed and used in conjunction with a lawful supervised school activity or course shall be permitted (e.g., starting pistol for track team).
		Weapons under the control of law enforcement personnel are permitted.

18 U.S.C.				
Sec.	921,	922		

In accordance with the federal law, possession or discharge of a firearm in, on, or within 1,000 feet of school grounds is prohibited. Violations shall be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

Transfer Students

SC 1317.2

When the school district receives a student who transfers from a public or private school during an expulsion period for an offense involving a weapon, the district may assign that student to an alternative assignment or may provide alternative education, provided the assignment does not exceed the expulsion period.

References:

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 1301-A, 1302.1-A, 1303-A, 1317.2

State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 10.2, 10.21, 10.23, 10.25, 403.1

Possession of Weapon on School Property – 18 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 912

Gun Control Act – 18 U.S.C. Sec. 921, 922

Individuals With Disabilities Education Act – 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1400 et seq.

No Child Left Behind Act – 20 U.S.C. Sec. 7114

Gun-Free Schools Act – 20 U.S.C. Sec. 7151

Individuals With Disabilities Education Act, Title 34, Code of Federal Regulations – 34 CFR Part 300

Board Policy – 103.1, 113.1, 113.2, 218, 233, 805, 805.1