

The possession and/or use of a firearm, whether loaded or unloaded, any destructive device, or other dangerous weapon (as defined under [section 948.61](#) of the state statutes) is prohibited at all times in school buildings and other buildings owned, occupied or controlled by the school district, on school premises, in school-provided transportation, and at activities under a school's control and supervision, except (1) in any situation where state law prohibits a school district from restricting an individual's right to possess a firearm or other weapon in such locations; and (2) the Board does not intend for this policy to restrict the authority of a qualified current law enforcement officer or a qualified former law enforcement officer to possess (and, where necessary in a safety emergency, use) any agency-issued weapon when acting in his/her official capacity or his/her licensed firearm to the same extent otherwise permitted by applicable state and federal law and agency policy.

When implementing this policy, school administrators and other employees should be aware that state-issued licenses permitting certain private individuals to lawfully carry a handgun or certain other weapons in various public places generally do not permit the possession, carrying or use of such weapons in schools or on school premises. This policy is not intended to prohibit the possession or use of potentially dangerous objects not designed primarily as weapons, provided that such objects have been issued or expressly authorized by the District, and provided that such objects are possessed and used exclusively for their limited and authorized purpose.

Law enforcement officials shall be contacted to help deal with a weapons situation which presents an immediate threat to safety. If the situation does not allow an opportunity to contact law enforcement officials immediately, school staff shall attempt to diffuse and control the situation in the safest manner possible until law enforcement officials can be summoned. In addition to reporting actual weapons situations to law enforcement officers as required by this policy, school employees and other mandated reporters of threats of school violence are also required to report any serious and imminent threat of violence in or targeted at a school that they become aware of to a law enforcement agency in accordance with state law requirements and Board policy.

A student who possesses a firearm or destructive device in violation of this policy shall be suspended from school, referred for an expulsion hearing and expelled from school for not less than one year. The School Board may modify this expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis. Students otherwise possessing a weapon in violation of any District policy or rule shall be subject to appropriate school disciplinary action, up to and including suspension and expulsion from school. A law enforcement or juvenile justice referral shall also be made for all students violating this policy.

Employees violating this policy may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination of employment, and shall be referred to law enforcement officials for prosecution under applicable state laws and/or local ordinances.

Any other person violating this policy shall be referred to law enforcement officials for prosecution under applicable state laws and/or local ordinances.

On a case-by-case, the District may give advance approval allowing an exception to this policy for a specific event or activity, provided that the request for such an exception is also consistent with the discretionary exceptions authorized under state law.

#### **Legal References:**

##### **Wisconsin Statutes**

<a href="#">Section 48.981(2)(a)</a>	[list of persons specified as mandatory reporters of child abuse and neglect and threats of school violence]
<a href="#">Section 118.07</a>	[school safety plans]
<a href="#">Section 118.31</a>	[use of reasonable force to obtain weapon]
<a href="#">Section 120.13(1)(bm)</a>	[state law suspension mandate for possession of a firearm]
<a href="#">Section 120.13(1)(c)2m</a>	[state law expulsion mandate for possession of a firearm]
<a href="#">Section 120.13(1)(g)</a>	[board authority to modify expulsion mandate on case-by-case basis]
<a href="#">Section 175.32</a>	[mandatory reporting of threats of school violence]
<a href="#">Section 175.60</a>	[license to carry a concealed weapon]
<a href="#">Section 941.23</a>	[carrying a concealed weapon]
<a href="#">Section 943.13</a>	[criminal trespass law, includes provisions related to carrying firearms]
<a href="#">Section 948.60</a>	[possession of dangerous weapon under 18 years of age]
<a href="#">Section 948.605</a>	[gun-free schools zones]
<a href="#">Section 948.61</a>	[dangerous weapons other than firearms on school premises]

##### **Federal Laws**

[Gun-Free Schools Act](#) [student possession of firearms prohibited; student referral to

law enforcement/juvenile justice system required in policy]  
[18 U.S.C Sec. 921\(a\)](#) [federal definition of “firearm” (including destructive devices) that is used within the Gun-Free Schools Act and within section 120.13(1)(c)(2m)]  
[Individuals with Disabilities Education Act](#) [programs and services for students with disabilities; includes authority to order change of placement for weapons possession]

**Adopted:**           **12/20/21**