

**Purpose**

To affirm the Board’s position regarding weapons on school property and/or at school sponsored events

**Definitions**

1. Firearms – Possession of a firearm as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 921. Examples include handguns, rifles, shotguns and bombs.
2. Other Guns – Possession of any type of gun, other than a firearm, loaded or unloaded, operable or inoperable. This may include any object that is a look-alike of a gun or firearm (e.g., B-B guns, pellet guns, water guns)
3. Weapons – 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 such term does not include a pocket knife with a blade of less than 2 ½ inches.
4. Other Weapons – Possession of any implement that could cause or is intended to cause bodily harm other than a firearm or other gun.
5. Expulsion – At a minimum the removal of a student from the student’s regular school or program.

**Policy Statement**

The presence of weapons in the schools, on school grounds, and on school buses creates an atmosphere that disrupts the educational process and threatens the safety and well-being of our students and staff. Possession or use of any rifle, handgun, shotgun, bomb, knife, look-alike gun, firearm, or the possession, any implement that could cause or is intended to cause bodily harm is strictly prohibited in the Allegany County Public School System, and shall result in an expulsion for a minimum of one (1) year in accordance with the Gun Free School Act.

The county superintendent may specify, on a case by case basis, a shorter period of expulsion, exclusion with an alternative educational setting, or other disciplinary action for a student who has brought a weapon onto school property. In all appropriate cases, school officials will involve appropriate law enforcement agencies when violations occur.

Students shall be required to participate in a lethality evaluation by a school psychologist before a return to school can be considered. Appropriate state and federal regulations will be adhered to in dealing with weapons violations.

<b>Legal Reference</b>	Md. Annotated Code, Education Sec. 7-305	P.L. 107-110 18 U.S.C § 930 COMAR 13A.08.01.12-1	
<b>Policy History</b>	<b>Adopted</b> November 14, 1995	<b>Reviewed</b>	<b>Revised</b> Aug. 12, 2008, 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading Sept. 9, 2008, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading April 11, 2023, 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading May 9, 2023, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading