

Book Policy Manual

Section Policies for Board Approval - Vol. 36, No. 2

Title Copy of po7217 POSSESSION OF FIREARMS AND WEAPONS BY VISITORS

Code po7217

Status

Adopted June 20, 2006

Last Revised February 18, 2020

7217 - **POSSESSION OF FIREARMS AND WEAPONS BY VISITORS**

Application of this Policy

This policy applies to "visitors" meaning persons who come onto property or a vehicle owned by the School Corporation or used by the Corporation for school purposes. The term includes members of the general public, students enrolled in other schools or school corporations, and employees of entities providing services to the Corporation, but does not include Corporation employees covered by Policy, 1617, Policy 3217, or Policy 4217 or currently enrolled students covered by Policy 5772.

Possession of a "Weapon" other than a "Firearm" by a Visitor

The **School** Board prohibits visitors from possessing, storing, making, or using a weapon other than a firearm in any setting that is under the control and supervision of the Corporation for the purpose of school activities approved and authorized by the Corporation including, but not limited to, property leased, owned, or contracted for by the Corporation, a schoolsponsored event, or in a Corporation vehicle. This prohibition does not apply to weapons under the control of a law enforcement officer.

The term "weapon" means an object which, in the manner in which it is used, ~~is~~ intended to be used, or ~~is~~ represented, is capable of inflicting serious bodily harm or property ~~damage, as well as~~ **damage or** endangering the health and safety of persons. Weapons ~~include,~~ **include** but are not limited ~~to,~~ **to** firearms, tasers, handguns, stun guns, guns of any type, including air and gas-powered guns (whether loaded or unloaded), knives, razors, clubs, electric weapons, chemical weapons, metallic knuckles, martial arts weapons, ammunition, and destructive devices (**such as bomb bombs, incendiary device devices, grenade grenades, Molotov cocktail cocktails, or rocket rockets,** with a propellant charge of more than four (4) ounces, etc.). A "knife" is defined as "an instrument that: 1) consists of a sharp ~~edge~~ **edged** or sharp pointed blade capable of inflicting cutting, stabbing, or tearing wounds; and 2) is intended to be used as a weapon." **(I.C. 35-47-5-2.5(a))**

Generally, the possession of a firearm in or on school property, in or on property that is being used by a school for a school function, or on a school bus is a felony (I.C. 35-47-9-2) and is prohibited by Board policy, **except for the possession of a firearm by a person who legally may possess a firearm and has been authorized by the Board to carry a firearm in or on Corporation property**. As used in this policy and as defined by Indiana law, "firearm" means any weapon that is capable of expelling, designed to expel, or that ~~may~~ readily **may** be converted to expel a projectile by means of explosion. However, State law permits a person who ~~may~~ legally **may** possess a firearm to maintain that firearm if it is locked in the person's trunk, kept in the glove compartment of the person's locked vehicle, or stored out of plain sight in the person's locked vehicle. This exception does not apply to students unless it is a high school student who is a member of a shooting sports team and the principal has approved the student keeping a firearm concealed in the student's motor vehicle on days the student is competing or practicing as a member of a shooting sports team. This exception also does not apply to former students if the person is no longer enrolled in school due to a disciplinary action within the previous twenty-four (24) months.

Reporting Violations of this Policy

The Superintendent ~~will~~ **shall** report a visitor who violates this policy to law enforcement officials and may take any necessary steps to exclude the visitor from Corporation property and Corporation sponsored events.

If authorized by the Board, exceptions ~~will~~ **shall** be permitted for:

- A. items approved by a principal as part of a class or individual presentation under adult supervision, if used for the purpose of and in the manner ~~approved;~~ **approved** (~~Working~~ **working** firearms and ammunition shall never be ~~approved;~~ **approved**);
- B. theatrical props used in appropriate settings;
- C. starter pistols used in appropriate school-related sporting events.

Revised 5/15/07

Revised 11/15/11

Legal

I.C. 34-28-7-2

I.C. 35-47-1-5

I.C. 35-47-5-2.5

I.C. 35-47-9

20 U.S.C. 7151