

STATE COLLEGE  
 AREA  
 SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS  
 TITLE: WEAPONS  
 ADOPTED: December 16, 1996  
 REVISED: July 13, 2009

218.1. WEAPONS	
1. Purpose	The State College Area School District 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 1317.2	<p>Weapon – shall include any object, device or instrument designed as a weapon or through its use is capable of threatening or producing bodily harm or which may be used to inflict self-injury including, but not limited to , any firearm, whether loaded or unloaded; pneumatic guns, including, but not limited to, pellet, BB, airsoft and paintball guns; knives; blades; clubs; metal knuckles; numchucks; throwing stars; and explosive, incendiary or poisonous gas; any combustible or flammable liquid; fireworks; mace and other propellants; stunguns; ammunition ; poisons; chains; arrows; objects that have been modified to serve as a weapon; or any other item which is used to threaten, strike terror, or cause bodily harm or death even though it is normally considered to not present a danger to others.</p> <p><b>Possessing</b> - a student is in possession of a weapon when the weapon is found on the person of the student; in the student's locker; in the student’s vehicle; 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.</p>
3. Authority SC 1317.2	The State College 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 State College Area 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.
4. Delegation of Responsibility	In the case of a student with disabilities, the Superintendent shall take all necessary steps to comply with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and follow

<p>SC 1317.2 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1400 et seq</p>	<p>Board policy.</p>
<p>SC 1317.2</p>	<p>The Superintendent or designee shall report the discovery of any weapon prohibited by this policy to the student's parents/guardians and to local law enforcement officials.</p>
<p>SC 1317.2</p>	<p>The Superintendent or designee shall report all incidents relating to expulsion for possession of a weapon to the Department of Education.</p>
<p>SC 1303-A</p>	<p>The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible to develop a memorandum of understanding biannually 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.</p>
<p>SC 1303-A</p>	<p>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) and to the Board of School Directors at least once each year.</p>
<p>5. Guidelines</p>	<p>Students, staff and parents/guardians shall be informed at least annually concerning this policy.</p>
<p>SC 1317.2</p>	<p>An exception to this policy may be made by the Superintendent, who shall prescribe special conditions or procedures to be followed (as outlined in the student handbook).</p> <p>Weapons under the control of law enforcement personnel are permitted.</p> <p>The district will take steps to investigate thoroughly incidents involving the possession of weapons and take steps to remedy the situation when reasonable suspicion is established.</p>
<p>18 U.S.C. Sec. 921, 922</p>	<p>In accordance with 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.</p>
<p>SC 1317.2</p>	<p><u>Transfer Students</u></p> <p>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.</p>

The provisions of this law do not apply to a weapon that is possessed and used in conjunction with a lawful supervised school activity or class that has been approved by school officials,. A weapon that is unloaded and is possessed by an individual while traversing school property for the purpose of obtaining access to public or private lands used for lawful hunting, if the entry on school premises is authorized by school authorities.

References:

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

State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 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.

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

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

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

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