

Policy JFCJ: WEAPONS IN SCHOOL

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 05/01/1992 | **Last Revised Date:** 09/01/2025 | **Last Reviewed Date:** December 18, 2025
09/01/2025

A safe education environment is essential for students, employees, and patrons of the district.

The district prohibits weapons on district property unless allowed by this policy or specifically authorized during a school-sponsored or school-sanctioned activity permitting weapons.

Definitions

School or District Property – Property utilized, supervised, owned, rented, leased, or controlled by the school district including, but not limited to, school playgrounds, parking lots, school transportation, and any property on which any school activity takes place.

Weapons Prohibited under the Missouri Safe Schools Act

Missouri law prohibits students from possessing the following weapons on school property:

1. A firearm as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 921.
2. A blackjack, concealable firearm, firearm, firearm silencer, explosive weapon, gas gun, knife, knuckles, machine gun, projectile weapon, rifle, shotgun, spring gun, and switchblade knife, as these terms are defined in § 571.010, RSMo.

Students who bring or possess these weapons on school property will be suspended from school for at least one calendar year or expelled, and the incident will be reported to law enforcement, as required by law. The superintendent may modify the suspension or expulsion on a case-by-case basis. Students who are suspended under this provision may be educated in an alternative school.

Other Prohibited Weapons

In addition to the weapons prohibited by state law as described above, the district also prohibits weapons that fall into one of the following categories:

1. A dangerous weapon as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 930(g)(2), which includes instruments that are used for or are readily capable of causing death or serious injury.
2. All knives, including all pocketknives.
3. Any other instrument or device used or designed to be used to threaten or assault, whether for attack or defense.
4. Any object designed to look like or imitate a weapon as defined in this policy unless specifically authorized by the principal for an educational purpose.
5. Ammunition or components of a prohibited weapon.

Students who bring or possess these weapons on school property will be disciplined in accordance with the relevant student discipline code. The district may report the incident to law enforcement when appropriate or required by law.

Students with disabilities who violate this policy will be disciplined in accordance with policy JGE.

Reporting

The district will report all school safety incidents and credible school safety threats that involve a firearm, explosive, knife, or other weapon defined in § 571.010, RSMo., to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and will make other reports as required by law.

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Dent-Phelps R-III School District, Salem, Missouri

Policy Reference Disclaimer:

These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State	Description
§ 160.261, RSMo.	State Statute
§ 160.664, RSMo.	State Statute
§ 167.117, RSMo.	State Statute
§ 571.010, RSMo.	State Statute
§ 571.030, RSMo.	State Statute
Federal	Description
18 U.S.C. § 921	Federal Statute
18 U.S.C. § 930(g)(2)	Federal Statute
20 U.S.C. § 1400-1417	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

Cross References

Code	Description
ECA-1	BUILDING AND GROUNDS SECURITY
ECA-1-AP(1)	BUILDING AND GROUNDS SECURITY
ECA-2	BUILDING AND GROUNDS SECURITY
ECA-2-AP(2)	BUILDING AND GROUNDS SECURITY - (School Protection Officers)