



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

August 7, 2023

Dear Parent(s)/Legal Guardian(s):

The safety and security of all students remains a priority for the Hawaii State Department of Education. "Be Cool and Keep our Schools Safe" is the annual statewide campaign to remind you and your child/children of the consequences for a firearm violation. Please share with your child/children the dangers of bringing a firearm to school. Should your child bring a firearm to school, he/she shall be removed from attending school for not less than one (1) calendar year, except as pursuant to HAR 8-60-75. Firearms are strictly prohibited on all school campuses, in your child/children's backpacks, on the school bus and/or at all school-related activities.

"Firearm" as defined by Hawaii Administrative Rules Title 8, Chapter 19 Student Misconduct, Discipline, School Searches and Seizures, Reporting Offenses, Police Interviews and Arrests, Restitution for Vandalism, Complaint Procedure and Investigation of Discrimination, Harassment (Including Sexual Harassment), Bullying and/or Retaliation means:

- (1) Any weapon, including but not limited to, a starter gun, shotgun, air guns which includes BB guns, pellet guns, paintball guns, crossbow, or any other instrument which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile;
- (2) The frame or receiver of any such weapon;
- (3) Any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; or
- (4) Any destructive device. The term "destructive device" means:
 - a. Any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas:
 - i. Bomb;
 - ii. Grenade;
 - iii. Rocket having a propellant charge;
 - iv. Missile having an explosive or incendiary charge;
 - v. Mine; or
 - vi. Device similar to any of the devices described in the preceding clause;
 - b. Any type of weapon which will, or which may be readily converted to expel a projectile, including but is not limited to a weapon that expels a projectile by action of an explosive or other propellant; or
 - c. Any combination or parts either designed or intended for use in converting any device described above, and from which a destructive device may be readily assembled.

Only the Superintendent of Education, on a case-by-case basis, may modify a student's dismissal. If you have any questions, please contact your school's principal. Thank you for helping to keep Hawaii schools safe for our children and school community.

Sincerely,

Keith T. Hayashi
Superintendent

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Attachment