

BEND-LA PINE SCHOOLS

Administrative School District No. 1

Deschutes County, Oregon

BOARD POLICY

Name: Weapons in Schools

Section: Personnel

Code: GBJ-BP

No person on grounds of the schools controlled by the Board of Directors for Bend-La Pine Schools (including in school buildings) shall bring to, possess, conceal or use a weapon or firearm at any property under the jurisdiction of Bend-La Pine Schools, any activities under the jurisdiction of the district, or any interscholastic activities administered by a voluntary organization (i.e., Oregon School Activities Association). This prohibition includes those who may otherwise be permitted by law to carry such weapons or firearms.

Bend-La Pine Schools has a zero-tolerance policy for firearms.

In accordance with the federal Gun-Free School Zone Act, possession or discharge of a firearm in a school zone is prohibited. A "school zone," as defined by federal law, means in or on school grounds or within 1,000 feet of school grounds.

The Superintendent may authorize persons to possess weapons for courses, programs and activities approved by the district and conducted on district property (including but not limited to, hunter safety courses, weapons-related vocational courses or weapons-related sports). The district will post a notice at any site or premise off district grounds that at the time is being used exclusively for a school program or activity. The notice shall identify the district as the sponsor, the activity as a school function and that the possession of firearms or dangerous weapons in or on the site or premises is prohibited under Oregon Revised Statute (ORS 166.370).

For the purposes of this regulation, and as defined by state and federal law, "weapon" includes:

1. A "dangerous weapon" means any weapon, device, instrument, material or substance, which under the circumstances in which it is used, attempted to be used or threatened to be used is capable of causing death or serious physical injury;
2. A "deadly weapon" means any weapon, instrument, article or substance specifically designed for and presently capable of causing death or serious physical injury;
3. A "firearm" means any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive, ~~the~~ the frame or receiver of any such weapon, any firearm muffler or silencer; or any destructive device;
4. A "destructive device" includes but is not limited to any explosive, incendiary or poison gas component or any combination of parts either designed or intended for use in converting any device into any destructive device or from which a destructive device may be readily assembled. A destructive device does not include any device that is designed primarily or redesigned primarily for use as a signaling, pyrotechnic, line throwing, safety or similar device.
5. Weapons may also include, but are not limited to: knives, metal knuckles, straight razors, noxious or irritating gases, poisons, unlawful drugs or other items fashioned with the intent to use, sell, harm, threaten or harass students, staff members, parents and community members.

Weapons and firearms under the control of law enforcement personnel are permitted as allowed by both state and federal law.

Replicas of weapons, fireworks and pocket knives or any similar instrument, the use of which, could inflict injury upon any other person are also prohibited by Board policy. Exceptions to the district's replicas prohibition may be granted only with prior administrator approval for certain curriculum or school-related activities. Prohibited weapons, replicas of weapons, fireworks and pocket knives are subject to seizure or

forfeiture.

In accordance with Oregon law, any district employee who as reasonable cause to believe a student or other person, while in a school, is or, within the previous 120 days, has been in possession of a firearm or destructive device, as defined by this policy, shall immediately report such violation to an administrator, designee, or law enforcement. Any district employee who has reasonable cause to believe that a person, while in a school, is or has been in possession of a firearm or destructive device more than 120 days previously, may report to law enforcement. Employees who report directly to law enforcement shall also immediately inform an administrator.

Administrators shall promptly notify the appropriate law enforcement agency of staff reports received and at any other time there is reasonable cause to believe violations for firearms or destructive devices have occurred.

“Gun-Free School Zone” signs may be posted in cooperation with city and/or county officials as appropriate. Violations, unless otherwise excepted by law or this policy, shall be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

The Superintendent may authorize district employees, district contractors and/or their employees, district volunteers, and individuals granted building use permits to possess weapons for courses, programs and activities approved by the district and conducted on district property. Standard exemptions are:

- Starter pistols for track and field events;
- Replicas of weapons used by NJROTC and other school approved activities;
- Weapons for approved hunter safety courses or approved youth groups, i.e.; Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, or Camp Fire.

The Superintendent will ensure notice of this regulation is provided. Employees in violation of this regulation will be subject to discipline up to and including dismissal. Individuals with the district and volunteers will be subject to appropriate sanctions. A referral to law enforcement may be made as required by law for any violation of this regulation.

Legal Reference(s):

ORS 161.015

ORS 166.210 – 166.370

ORS 332.107

Gun-Free School Zone Act of 1990, 18 U.S.C., §§ 921(a)(25)-(26), 922(q) (2018)

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), 20 U.S.C. §§ 1400-1419 (2018)

Youth Handgun Safety Act, 18 U.S.C. §§ 922(x), 924(a)(6) (2018)

Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act, 20 U.S.C. §§ 7101, 7111-7121 (2018)

Oregon Senate Bill 554 (2021)

District Reference(s):

[KGBB-BP: Firearms Prohibited](#)

[JFCJ-BP: Weapons in Schools](#)

Reviewed: 5/2007, 11/9/2021, 5/10/2022

Approved: 5/2007, 12/14/2021, 6/21/2022