

# NORTHERN WESTMORELAND CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: WEAPONS

ADOPTED: October 20, 2011

REVISED:

218.1. WEAPONS	
1. Purpose	The Joint Operating Committee 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 1301-A 1317.2	<p>Weapon - the term shall include but not be limited to any knife, cutting instrument, cutting tool, nunchaku, firearm, shotgun, rifle, replica of a weapon, and/or any other tool, instrument or implement capable of inflicting serious bodily injury.</p> <p>Possessing - a student is in possession of a weapon when the weapon is found on the person of the student; in the student's locker; 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, 1850.1 Pol. 218	The Joint Operating Committee prohibits students from possessing and bringing weapons and replicas of weapons into any school buildings, onto school property, to any school-sponsored activity, and onto any vehicle providing transportation to school or a school-sponsored activity or while the student is coming to or from the school.
SC 1317.2 Pol. 233	The Joint Operating Committee shall, in coordination with the school district of residence, 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 Administrative Director may recommend modifications of such expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis.
SC 1317.2 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1400 et seq Pol. 113.1	In the case of a student with disabilities, the center shall take all steps required to comply with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and Joint Operating Committee policy, in cooperation with the student's school district of residence.
4. Delegation of Responsibility SC 1302.1-A	The Administrative Director or designee shall react promptly to information and knowledge concerning possession of a weapon. Such action shall be in compliance with state law and regulation and with the procedures set forth in the memorandum

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Pol. 805	of understanding with local law enforcement officials.
SC 1302.1-A 1317.2	The Administrative Director or designee shall immediately report the discovery of any weapon prohibited by this policy to local law enforcement officials and inform the student's parent/guardian.
SC 1303-A 1317.2	The Administrative Director shall annually by July 31, report all incidents involving acts of violence or possession of a weapon to the Office of Safe Schools on the required form in accordance with state law and regulation.
5. Guidelines SC 1317.2	An exception to this policy may be made by the Administrative Director, who shall prescribe special conditions or procedures to be followed.
18 U.S.C. Sec. 921, 922	In accordance with the federal Gun-Free School Zone Act, 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.
SC 1317.2	<p><u>Transfer Students</u> When the center receives a student who transfers from a public or private school during an expulsion period for an offense involving a weapon, the center may assign that student to an alternative assignment or may provide alternative education, provided the assignment does not exceed the expulsion period.</p> <p>References:</p> <p>School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 1301-A, 1302.1-A, 1303-A, 1317.2</p> <p>State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 403.1</p> <p>Possession of Weapon on School Property – 18 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 912</p> <p>Gun Control Act – 18 U.S.C. Sec. 921, 922</p> <p>Individuals With Disabilities Education Act – 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1400 et seq.</p> <p>Gun-Free Schools Act – 20 U.S.C. Sec. 7151</p> <p>Individuals With Disabilities Education, Title 34, Code of Federal Regulations – 34 CFR Part 300</p> <p>Joint Operating Committee Policy – 113.1, 218, 233, 805</p>