
Possession of a Weapon

Policy Statement

Possession of a **weapon** on school property or at a school-sponsored activity is a violation of Minnesota law and is a felony offense. No student or non-student, including adults and visitors, shall **possess**, use or distribute a weapon when in a **school location**.

Weapon means any firearm, whether loaded or unloaded, a knife, or any device designed as a weapon capable of producing death or bodily harm, or any other device resembling a weapon or instrument which, in the manner it is used or intended to be used, is calculated or likely to produce death, bodily harm and/or intimidation. Some examples of weapons are: guns (including, but not limited to, pellet guns, look-alike guns and non-functioning guns that could be used to threaten others), knives, clubs, metal knuckles, numchucks, throwing stars, explosives, fireworks, mace and other propellants, stun guns, ammunition, poison and objects that have been modified to serve as a weapon.

Possession refers to having a weapon on one's person or in an area subject to one's control on school property or at a school sponsored activity.

School Location includes:

- Any school building or grounds whether leased, rented, owned or controlled by the school
- Locations of school activities or trips; the area of entrance or departure from school premises or events; bus stops
- School buses or school vehicles, school-contracted vehicles [parent or volunteer vehicles when transporting students to/from school activities or trips]
- All locations where school-related functions are conducted
- Anywhere students are under the responsibility of school personnel

If a Possession of a Weapon indicates a safety issue with St. Odilia School, refer to policy 5141.5, which is the Internal Emergencies Policy.

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Procedure

Any student(s) who is (are) in possession of a weapon will be subject to the following consequences:

1. Immediate confiscation of the weapon by the school administrator
2. Notification of the involved student's parent(s)/guardian(s)
3. Student suspension

The School Administration shall determine the level of police involvement, taking into consideration the severity of the situation and the weapon involved. Further disciplinary action may include but is not limited to the following:

1. Notification of police
2. Parental conference with school staff
3. Loss of school privileges
4. Detention
5. Modified school program
6. Reimbursement for damages
7. In-school suspension
8. Expulsion

Any non-student who violates this policy shall be informed of the policy and asked to leave the school location. Depending on the circumstances, the person may be barred from future entry to the school location. In addition, if the person is a student in another school district, that school district may be contacted concerning the policy violation.

If appropriate, law enforcement will be notified of the policy violation by the non-student and may be asked to provide an escort to remove the person from the school location.