

## **York Adams Academy**

Section: Programs

Title: Weapons

Number: 218.1

Status: Active

### Legal References

18 U.S.C. 921

18 U.S.C. 922

20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq

20 U.S.C. 7114

20 U.S.C. 7961

18 Pa. C.S.A. 912

24 P.S. 1301-A

24 P.S. 1302.1-A

24 P.S. 1303-A

24 P.S. 1317.2

34 CFR Part 300

22 PA Code 10.2

22 PA Code 10.21

22 PA Code 10.23

22 PA Code 10.25

22 PA Code 403.1

Pol. 103.1

Sending District Pol. 113.1

Sending District Pol. 113.2

Pol. 218

Pol. 233

Pol. 805.1

### **Purpose**

The intent of this policy is to provide a safe environment for the operation of the educational programs. Weapons on school property or at school functions present a danger to those present and constitute a disruption to a safe and orderly school environment.

### **Definitions**

**Weapon** - the term shall include but not be limited to any knife, cutting instrument, cutting tool, nunchaku, firearm, shotgun, rifle, and/or any other tool, instrument or implement capable of inflicting serious bodily injury. The term shall also include objects which have the appearance or characteristics of a weapon, or objects which are intended and capable of producing bodily injury, including fireworks or explosive devices.

**Possession** - a student is in possession of a weapon when the weapon is found on the person of the student; in the student's locker; determined to be under the student's control while on school

property, or on the way to or from school; on property being used by the school; at any school function or activity; or at any school event held away from the school.

### **Authority**

The Joint Board of Directors (Board) prohibits students from possessing and bringing weapons into any York Adams Academy (Academy) buildings, onto school property, to any school-sponsored activity, and onto any public vehicle providing transportation to school or a school-sponsored activity or while the student is coming to or from school.

The Board shall refer any student who violates this weapons policy to the sending district for an expulsion hearing.

Students who are in possession of weapons in violation of this policy shall also be charged with violations of appropriate provisions of the Board-adopted Code of Student Conduct.

In the case of a student with a disability, including a student for whom an evaluation is pending with the sending district, the Academy shall take all necessary steps to comply with state and federal laws and regulations, the procedures set forth in the memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement and Board policies.

### **Delegation of Responsibility**

The Superintendent of Record or designee shall react promptly to information and knowledge concerning possession of a weapon. Such action shall be in compliance with state law and regulations and with the procedures set forth in the memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement officials and the Academy's emergency preparedness plan.

The Superintendent of Record or designee shall annually, by July 31st, report all incidents relating to expulsion for possession of a weapon to the Department of Education.

### **Guidelines**

The Superintendent of Record or designee shall immediately report incidents involving weapons on school property, at any school-sponsored activity or on a conveyance providing transportation to or from a school-sponsored activity to the local police department that has jurisdiction over the school's property, in accordance with state law and regulations, the procedures set forth in the memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement and Board policies.

The Superintendent of Record or designee shall notify the parent/guardian of any student directly involved in an incident involving weapons as a victim or suspect immediately, as soon as practicable. The Superintendent of Record or designee shall inform the parent/guardian whether or not the local police department that has jurisdiction over the school property has been or may be notified of the incident. The Superintendent of Record or designee shall document attempts made to reach the parent/guardian.

The Academy Director shall annually inform staff, students and parents/guardians about the Board policy prohibiting weapons and administrative regulations and procedures for investigating and reporting violations of this policy.

Weapons capable of firing a bullet, ball, or projectile shall not be used in instructional and extracurricular programs, stage props in dramatic productions, or student athletic contests. If the display of a weapon is a part of an authorized project or class, the Academy Director may authorize the display after assuring that the weapon has been made inoperative and necessary safety procedures are in place.

All exceptions under this policy must be approved in advance of the actual event. Exhibits and displays of this type will not, under any circumstances, be permitted to be transported on the Academy's buses or transportation system.

Law enforcement officers who are specifically authorized to carry a weapon to fulfill their responsibilities may possess weapons on Academy property only when on duty, in official uniform, with a badge and identification in view.