

## **Policy Statement**

The Eastern School Board believes that the safety of students and staff in our schools is paramount and recognizes that students and staff must be free from the fear and danger associated with the presence of weapons on school property.

## **Rationale**

The Eastern School Board is committed to and obligated to provide a safe, caring and healthy school environment for students, teachers and parents within its jurisdiction. The purpose of this policy is to ensure a safe and orderly teaching and learning environment for students, staff, and the public.

## **Scope**

This policy shall be applicable to all students, employees, visitors and guests of all schools in the Eastern School District.

## **Procedure**

- 1.0 The Eastern School District will establish Administrative Regulations that govern the application of this policy.
- 2.0 The Administrative Regulations will be reviewed annually by the CEO/Director of Education in collaboration with the District Administrative staff.
- 3.0 The Principal/Designate shall be responsible for ensuring that this policy is communicated early in the school year to all staff, students, parents and community members.
- 4.0 Pursuant to federal and provincial law, a student who brings a weapon, as defined by federal law, to a school location will be suspended pending full investigation by the Eastern School District.
- 5.0 This policy on the possession, use or distribution of weapons by students will not interfere with instruction or use of appropriate equipment and tools by students. Inappropriate use of such equipment shall be guided by the Administrative Regulations associated with this policy.

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*Authority:* Eastern School Board  
*Legal Reference:*  
*Cross Reference:* The Schools Act, 1997

*Date Approved by the Board:* August 17, 2005  
*Date of Amendments:* December 6, 2007

- 6.0 A set of guidelines, as outlined in The Administrative Regulations associated with this policy, will be adhered to when equipment and tools are authorized for use in instruction in school locations.
- 7.0 This policy does not preclude students from having in their possession and/or use objects which are a natural component of any approved school program (e.g., toy guns, swords etc. for drama productions).
- 8.0 All incidents involving weapons shall be investigated by the Principal, in consultation with the local emergency response authorities.

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