WEAPONS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

No person(s) is to enter any Salem school, school property, or school sponsored activities with a weapon of any kind in his/her possession or vehicle without prior written authorization from the Superintendent of Schools. Student violations of this policy will result in both school disciplinary action and notification of local law enforcement authorities. Members of the public who violate this policy will be reported to local law enforcement authorities. Law enforcement officers in the conduct of their official duties shall be deemed to have such prior authorization.

No person(s) shall knowingly aid, abet or otherwise assist another person(s) in possessing, bringing or concealing any weapon into any Salem school, school sponsored activity or onto any school property.

The term “weapons” includes but is not limited to, firearms (rifles, pistols, revolvers, explosives); BB guns; paint ball guns; knives; slingshots; metallic knuckles; firecrackers; billy-clubs; switchblade knives; swords; sword canes; pistol canes; black jacks; daggers; incendiaries; martial arts weapons or self-defense weapons (as defined in RSA 159:16; RSA 159:20 and RSA 159:24). “Weapon” is further defined as any device, instrument, material or substance, which is used, attempted to be used, or threatened to be used that is readily capable of causing death or serious injury.

Any student who is determined to have brought a firearm (as defined by 18 U.S.C. Section 921) to school, on school property, or to a school sponsored activity will be expelled for not less than one (1) year. Such firearm based expulsions may be modified by the School Board upon written recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools on an individual case basis. Factors that the Superintendent may consider include, but are not limited to, the student’s intent, the student’s actions, including whether the student displayed the firearm or used it to threaten others, the student’s age and past conduct history.

For weapons other than firearms, students will be suspended immediately for a period of ten (10) days. The Superintendent is further hereby authorized to continue any such suspension for a period of not greater than an additional ten (10) days, provided that the Superintendent first conducts a hearing into the circumstances of the violation. In all cases of alleged violation of this policy, the School Board shall schedule and hold an expulsion hearing within four (4) weeks of the date the violation was first alleged. If the board finds that the student has violated the policy, the board shall vote to expel the student for a time certain, ordinarily one (1) year, and to impose other penalties, based on the circumstances and nature of the violation.

All violations of this policy will include immediate referral to the Salem Police Department.

Adopted 12/13/94 (Effective 1/3/95)
Revised 1/20/98; 10/22/13
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Persons seeking authorization to have a weapon in their possession must obtain prior written permission from the principal of the school; the permission may be granted when the following conditions exist:

1. The weapon has been disabled or disarmed so as to ensure it cannot be discharged or used to harm in any way.

2. The possession of the weapon is an educational requirement or has a direct instructional benefit.

3. The authorization is provided for a period of time not to exceed the close of the current school year.

It is the responsibility of the building principal to conduct a thorough and comprehensive investigation of any incident or complaint.

When it has been determined that an adult is in violation of this policy, an immediate referral for removal and possible arrest will be made to the Salem Police Department.

For violations of the firearms prohibition as defined in Policy JICI, the student will be expelled from school.

For other violations of the weapons on school property policy, the administration will use policy JIA to conduct their investigation. During an investigation which alleges that a student is in violation of the weapons policy, the principal will consider all relevant information including but not limited to the perpetrators intent or causal relationship for having an unauthorized weapon in his/her possession as defined in this regulation.

The school administration will suspend for ten (10) days any student who has violated this policy.

1. Immediately after determining the student is in violation of the policy, the principal shall make an oral referral to the Superintendent and the Salem Police Department.

2. Within 24 hours, the principal shall submit a written report to the Superintendent and the Salem Police Department.

The Superintendent will hold a hearing to consider whether an additional ten (10) day suspension is warranted. Further, if the student is found to be in violation of the policy, an expulsion hearing before
the Salem School Board will be scheduled. The hearing before the Superintendent must be held during the first ten (day) suspension imposed by the school administration. The School Board expulsion hearing shall be held within four (4) weeks of the date the violation was first alleged.

The Salem School Board may expel any student found in violation of the policy for a time certain, ordinarily one year. Each expulsion will be reviewed annually to determine whether the student should be readmitted to the school.