

Weapons in School

The TPCA Board shall not tolerate the possession and/or use of a weapon by students or school personnel.

Carrying, bringing, using or possessing any dangerous or deadly weapon in any school building, on school grounds, in any school vehicle or at any school-sponsored activity without the written authorization of the school Principal or the TPCA Board is prohibited. Such weapons include, but are not limited to, any pistol, revolver, rifle, shotgun, air gun or spring gun; explosive device; slingshot; bludgeon; brass knuckles or artificial knuckles of any kind; pepper spray, mace or similar product; knife having a blade of greater than three inches; any knife the blades of which can be opened by the flick off a button or pressure on the handle, or any pocketknife where the blade is carried in a partially-opened position.

Violation of this policy shall require mandatory suspension or expulsion, unless, upon discovering that he or she has carried, brought, or is in possession of a dangerous weapon, a student immediately notifies a teacher, the Principal, or other authorized person and delivers the dangerous weapon to the teacher, Principal or authorized person.

The parent(s)/guardian(s) of an expelled student may appeal an expulsion decision to the TPCA Board in a hearing which shall occur at either a regular Board meeting or at a special meeting. At the discretion of the parent(s)/guardian(s) and/or the TPCA Board, such hearing may be conducted in executive session.

In accordance with federal law, expulsion shall be for no less than one full calendar year for a student who is determined to have brought a firearm to school.

Any exceptions to the policy must be specified in writing.

Approved August 22, 1996

Revised July 23, 1999