## SUN AREA TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

SECTION: PUPILS TITLE: WEAPONS ADOPTED: March 21, 2002 REVISED: June 20, 2013

	218.1. WEAPONS
1. Purpose	The Joint Operating Committee recognizes the importance of a safe school environment relative to the educational process. Possession of weapons in the school setting is a threat to the safety of students and staff and is prohibited by law.
2. Definitions SC 1301-A, 1317.2	<b>Weapon</b> - the term shall include but not be limited to any knife, cutting instrument, cutting tool, nunchaku, brass or metal knuckles, firearm, shotgun, rifle, replica of a weapon, paintball gun, laser pointer, bow/arrows, chemical agent, explosive device ammunition, and any other tool, instrument or implement capable of inflicting serious bodily injury.
	<b>Possession</b> - a student is in possession of a weapon when the weapon is found on the person of the student; in the student's locker; in the student's vehicle; under the student's control while on school property, on property being used by the school, at any school function or activity, at any school event held away from the school, or while the student is coming to or from the school.
3. Authority SC 1317.2, 1850.1 Pol. 218	The Joint Operating Committee prohibits students from possessing and bringing weapons and replicas of weapons into any school buildings, onto school property, to any school-sponsored activity, and onto any private or public vehicle providing transportation to the school or a school-sponsored activity, or while the student is coming to or from school.
SC 1317.2 Pol. 233	The Joint Operating Committee shall, in coordination with the school district of residence, expel for a period of not less than one (1) year any student who violates this weapons policy. Such expulsion shall be given in conformance with formal due process proceedings required by law. The Administrative Director may recommend modifications of such expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis.

	SC 1317.2 Title 22 Sec. 10.23 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1400 et seq Pol. 103.1, 113.1, 113.2	In the case of a student with a disability, including a student for whom an evaluation is pending, the school shall take all steps required to comply with state and federal laws and regulations, the procedures set forth in the memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement and Joint Operating Committee policies.
4.	Delegation of Responsibility SC 1302.1-A Pol. 805	The Administrative Director or designee shall react promptly to information and knowledge concerning possession of a weapon. Such action shall be in compliance with state law and regulation and with the procedures set forth in the memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement officials and the school's emergency preparedness plan.
5.	Guidelines SC 1302.1-A, 1303-A, 1317.2 Title 22 Sec. 10.2, 10.21	The Administrative Director 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 school or 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 Joint Operating Committee policies.
	Title 22 Sec. 10.2, 10.25	The Administrative Director 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 Administrative Director 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 Administrative Director or designee shall document attempts made to reach the parent/guardian.
	SC 1303-A	In accordance with state law, the Administrative Director shall annually, by July 31, report all incidents involving weapons to the Office for Safe Schools on the required form.
	SC 1317.2	An exception to this policy may be made by the Administrative Director, who shall prescribe special conditions or procedures to be followed.
	18 U.S.C. Sec. 921, 922	In accordance with the federal law, possession or discharge of a firearm in, on, or within 1,000 feet of school grounds is prohibited. Violations shall be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

	Transfer Students
SC 1317.2	When the sending school district receives a student who transfers from a public or private school during an expulsion period for an offense involving a weapon, the school may assign that student to an alternative assignment or may provide alternative education, provided the assignment does not exceed the expulsion period.
	References:
	School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 1301-A, 1302.1-A, 1303-A, 1317.2
	State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 403.1
	Possession of Weapon on School Property – 18 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 912
	Gun Control Act – 18 U.S.C. Sec. 921, 922
	Individuals With Disabilities Education Act – 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1400 et seq.
	Gun-Free Schools Act – 20 U.S.C. Sec. 7151
	Individuals With Disabilities Education, Title 34, Code of Federal Regulations – 34 CFR Part 300
	Joint Operating Committee Policy – 113.1, 218, 233, 805