Section 5000 – Personnel

No person shall possess, transport or transmit a dangerous weapon on school District property, property used by the school District for a school-related purpose, or in a motor vehicle used for a school District-related purpose unless: (a) Prior permission has been granted by the Superintendent, (b) The person is an on-duty law enforcement officer or, if off duty, the officer is otherwise required by the law enforcement agency to carry a weapon; or (c) as otherwise allowed by law.1

A dangerous weapon, within the meaning of this policy, shall include, by way of description, such things as a firearm, knife, black jack, baton, iron bar, brass knuckles, martial arts devices, and incendiary and/or explosive devices. Pursuant to federal law, the term firearm includes, but is not limited to, any weapon designed to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive, the frame, or receiver of any such weapon, a muffler or silencer for such a weapon, or destructive device.2 Any person, including a student, who violates this policy, will be reported to law enforcement authorities. Employees who violate this policy will be severely disciplined, up to and including discharge.

The administrative rules prohibiting students from possessing dangerous weapons is contained in the Student Code of Conduct. The District, pursuant to state law, shall expel students who violate the weapons laws and rules unless one of the statutory exceptions is established.3 To comply with federal law, any such exception shall be reduced to writing.

1 28.425o. added Premises on which carrying concealed weapon prohibited; violation. Sec. 5o. (1) An individual licensed under this act to carry a concealed pistol, or who is exempt from licensure under section 12a(f), shall not carry a concealed pistol on the premises of any of the following: (a) A school or school property except that a parent or legal guardian of a student of the school is not precluded from carrying a concealed pistol while in a vehicle on school property, if he or she is dropping the student off at the school or picking up the child from the school. As used in this section, “school” and “school property” mean those terms as defined in section 237a of the Michigan penal code, 1931 PA 328, MCL 750.237a.

2 Pursuant to federal law, the term destructive device means: any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas: bomb, grenade, rocket having a propellant charge of more than four ounces, missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than one-quarter ounce, mine, or device similar to any or the devices described in the preceding clauses.

3 To establish a statutory exception, state law requires clear and convincing evidence that: 1) The object or instrument possessed by the pupil was not possessed by the pupil for use as a weapon, or for direct or indirect delivery to another person for use as a weapon, or 2) the weapon was not knowingly possessed by the pupil, or 3) the pupil did not know or have reason to know that the object or instrument possessed by the pupil constituted a dangerous weapon, or 4) the weapon was possessed by the pupil at the suggestion, request, or direction of, or with the express permission of, school or police authorities.

Grand Rapids Public Schools
Facsimile Weapons

The Board will not tolerate employee possession of any facsimile or “look alike” weapon on school property at any time. It shall be a violation of this policy for any employee or other person to carry, display, or brandish any facsimile of a dangerous weapon with the intent to scare, terrify, alarm, threaten, or intimidate any other person.

Any employee in possession of a replica or facsimile of a dangerous weapon, in violation of this policy will be placed under immediate suspension, pending an investigation of the incident by the appropriate school or legal authorities. In accordance with applicable law and collective bargaining agreements, the Superintendent is authorized to discipline any employee who violates this policy.

Approved: June 29, 2009

LEGAL REF: MCL 380.1311; 750.237a; 18 USCA 921; 20 USCA 7151 (No Child Left Behind Act)