

Battenkill Valley Supervisory Union
 Arlington School Town District
 Sandgate School Town District

WEAPONS

Code F28

It is the intent of the board to comply with the federal Gun Free Schools Act of 1994 and Act No. 35 of the 1995 session of the Vermont General Assembly requiring school districts to provide for the possible expulsion of students who bring weapons to school. It is further the intent of the Board to maintain a student discipline system consistent with the requirements of the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Vermont State Board of Education rules.

Definitions

1. For the purposes of this policy, the terms "weapon" and "to school", and "expelled" shall have the following meanings:
 - a. **Weapon** means a firearm as defined in Section 921 of Title 18 of the United States Code and any instrument designed to inflict injury.
 - b. **To school** means any setting, which is under the control and supervision of the school District. It includes school grounds, facilities and vehicles used to transport students to and from school or school activities.
 - c. **Expelled** means the termination for at least a calendar year of educational services to a student. At the discretion of the Board and Administration, an expelled student may be afforded limited educational services at a site other than the school during the period of expulsion under this policy.

Policy Statement

No weapons on campus except with the prior approval of the principal or superintendent.

A student found by the Board after a hearing to have brought a weapon to school shall be expelled for at least a calendar year. However, the Board may modify the expulsion on a case-by-case basis when it finds circumstances such as, but not limited to:

- a) The student was unaware that he or she had brought a weapon to school.
- b) The student did not intend to use the weapon or threaten or endanger others.
- c) The pupil is disabled and the misconduct is related to the disability.
- d) The pupil does not present an ongoing threat to others and a lengthy expulsion would not serve the best interests of the pupil.

An expulsion hearing conducted under this policy shall afford due process as required by law.

In addition, any student who brings a weapon to school shall be referred to a law enforcement agency.

As required by state law, the superintendent shall annually provide the Commissioner of Education with descriptions of the circumstances surrounding expulsions imposed under this policy, the number of students expelled and the type of weapons involved.

	Date Adopted	Replaces Policy
Battenkill Valley Supervisory Union		
Arlington Town School District	January 25, 2012	
Sandgate Town School District		