

EDUCATION: STUDENTS

Policy 502.3-R

Student Possession of Weapons

Where a school administrator or staff member reasonably believes that a student is:

- (a) in possession of a weapon, or
- (b) has used a weapon, or
- (c) intends to use a weapon,

the school administrator or, where appropriate, a staff member shall ensure that:

- (1) attempts are made to minimize risk of injury to any person without endangering themselves unreasonably;
- (2) the police are notified;
- (3) where possible, the weapon is confiscated and turned over to the police;
- (4) the parent/guardian is contacted;
- (5) the student is suspended by the Principal or Vice Principal pending disciplinary action;
- (6) the Superintendent of Schools is immediately notified.

Disciplinary action shall involve each of the five following actions:

- (1) The police will be informed and they will determine if criminal charges will be laid.
- (2) The incident shall be immediately referred to the Board of Review consisting of:
 - a) Area Superintendent (Chair);
 - b) School Principal;
 - c) Counsellor;
 - d) Other persons as appropriate (e.g., R.C.M.P. Liaison Officer)
- (3) The Board of Review will review the circumstances related to the student's conduct and make a report to the Superintendent with a recommendation which may include one or more of the following:
 - a) a suspension of a specified duration,
 - b) transfer to another school,
 - c) suspension pending criminal charges where there is a threat to the welfare of other students,
 - d) exclusion from school under Section 85(3)(a)(b) of the School Act for students 16 years of age or older,
 - e) referral to the School Medical Officer under Section 91 of the School Act,
 - f) other action deemed appropriate.

- (4) The student shall liable to severe disciplinary action including but not limited to a suspension of more than five days or exclusion from school.
- (5) The Board of Education will be notified of each incident as soon as practicable.

The Board will give the student and his/her parent or legal guardian an opportunity to meet with the Board before it imposes any further disciplinary action recommended by the Board of Review or Superintendent.

