

# ***POLICY***

13000-05

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## **GENERAL COMMITMENTS - FIREARMS, DEADLY WEAPONS, AND DESTRUCTIVE DEVICES**

Adoption Date: July 18, 2017

Legal Ref: I.C. 20-33-8-16, I.C. 35-47-9-2, I.C. 34-28-7, I.C. 35-47-1-5, I.C. 35-47-1-2.5,  
I.C. 35-47-9, I.C. 35-47-11.1-4, IC 35-47-5-2.5

Cross Ref:

### **Definitions**

”Firearm” is any weapon that is capable of expelling, designed to expel, or may readily be converted to expel, a projectile by means of an explosion.

“Ammunition” means fixed cartridge ammunition; shotgun shells; the individual components of fixed cartridge ammunition and shotgun shells; projectiles for muzzle loading firearms; and any propellant used in a firearm or in firearm ammunition.

“Knife” is an instrument that consists of a sharp edged or sharp pointed blade capable of inflicting cutting, stabbing, or tearing wounds; and is intended to be used as a weapon. The term includes a dagger, dirk, poniard, stiletto, switchblade knife, or gravity knife.

### **Policy**

It is a crime for **anyone** to knowingly or intentionally possess a firearm or knife in or on school property or on a school bus, unless specific exceptions apply.

No student shall possess any weapon, including a firearm, ammunition, or knife, in any building owned or leased by Westfield Washington Schools (“WWS”); on WWS property or grounds (including parking lots, athletic facilities, etc.); in vehicles owned, leased, or operated by WWS; and during WWS events, even if held outside of school corporation property (for example, prom or field trips). In addition to being subject to criminal charges, any student who violates this policy shall be subject to expulsion or suspension.

No student shall possess any object which is either intended, or may in fact be used as, or looks like a weapon or other instrumentality which could cause harm to any other person in any building owned or leased by WWS; on WWS property or grounds (including parking lots, athletic facilities, etc.); in vehicles owned, leased, or operated by WWS; and during WWS events, even if held outside of school corporation property (for example, prom or field trips). Such objects include, but are not necessarily limited to, knives, batons, night sticks, brass knuckles, bombs, fireworks, electronic stun weapon, tasers, stun guns, or chemicals. In addition to being subject to criminal charges, any student who violates this policy shall be subject to discipline, up to and including suspension or expulsion.

No WWS employee in the scope of his or her employment may possess any weapon, including a firearm, ammunition, or knife, in any building owned or leased by WWS on WWS property or grounds (including parking lots, athletic facilities, etc.); in vehicles owned, leased, or operated by WWS; and during WWS events, even if held outside of school corporation property (for example, prom or field trips). This prohibition does not apply to a firearm or ammunition that is locked in the trunk of an employee's personal vehicle, kept in the glove compartment of the employee's locked personal vehicle, or stored out of plain sight in the employee's locked personal vehicle.

The Board authorizes a WWS employee who may legally possess a firearm and holds one of the following positions to carry a firearm in or on school property:

- School Resource Officer
- Security Officer

A school board member may carry a firearm at a school board meeting, in or on school property, or at a school sponsored event.

No person, including school board members, may intentionally or openly display a firearm at any public meeting of the school board.

Anyone who has reason to believe that any individual is violating the law or this Policy shall immediately report the alleged violation to an administrator or law enforcement officer. WWS administration will immediately report any suspected violation of the law to law enforcement. WWS may take any necessary steps to exclude an alleged offender from WWS property or events for safety concerns.