

POSSESSION OR USE OF WEAPON ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

Whenever a student possesses of a weapon or when a weapon is found on school property and the owner is unknown, the principal should contact the school resource officer or the Baltimore County Police by dialing 9-911 to report the matter. This procedure applies to the possession and/or use of a weapon of any kind which shall include, but not be limited to, any rifle or gun, loaded or unloaded, operable or inoperable, switchblade knife, hunting knife, star knife, razors (including straight or retractable razors) spiked glove, spiked wristband, and mace derivative, tear gas device, or pepper spray product, or nunchaku. The police should be requested to report immediately to the office of the principal. At the time the weapon is turned over to the police officer, the principal should obtain a copy of the Police Property Inventory Form #15 (PS 119) from the officer. The parent/guardian should also be informed that the police will be allowed to interview the student in school. Parent/guardian telephone notification must occur prior to the police interview of the student. If it is not possible to contact the parent/guardian, this fact should be documented and the interview shall be conducted in the presence of the principal or principal's designee. **If the student found in possession of a handgun is age 16 or older, the student will be treated by the police as an adult.**

The principal should promptly notify the parent/guardian of the student's suspension and of the fact that the matter has been referred to the police. A copy of the Police Property Inventory Form should be included in the suspension report submitted to the Superintendent's Designee. Additionally, the Central Control Number (CCN) that appears on the Police Property Inventory Form should be given to the superintendent's designee when the suspension is initially reported by telephone to the designee.

In reference to a weapon offense involving a student, the attached Police Information Report, PS 119 (BEBCO form 84-189-90) should be completed and given to the police officer when the officer arrives at the school to confiscate the weapon. Additionally, in a case involving a student under 18 years of age, the principal or principal's designee should inform the police officer that school personnel will appear, when necessary, as a witness at Juvenile Services or court hearings. If the student is under 18 years of age, the police officer will issue Form 117 (a juvenile referral form) in the presence of parents.

For prosecution of a student over 18 years of age (**ages 16 or 17 if offense involves a handgun**), the principal or principal's designee should appear before the District Court Commissioner to request that a summons or arrest warrant be issued. When appearing before the District Court Commissioner, the principal or principal's designee should have available a copy of the police report regarding the offense. Exemption: The use of permanently inoperable rifles by JROTC students shall not be a violation of this policy during instructional time and at any other times when under the supervision of JROTC instructors.

Legal Reference: Article 27, Sec. 36A of the *Annotated Code of Maryland*

Revised 1985
Revised 1987
Revised 1993
Revised 1996

Revised 1999
Revised 2008