



# Shonto Governing Board of Education, Inc. Policy Statement

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**SUBJECT: WEAPONS IN SCHOOL**  
**POLICY NUMBER: JICI**  
**DATE OF ORIGINAL POLICY: 6/1/04**

**EFFECTIVE DATE: 12/6/13**  
**DATE OF NEXT REVIEW: 12/2016**  
**DATED: 11/16/2013**

## I. PHILOSOPHY STATEMENT:

According to the Public Agency Training Council 2011, "Legal and Liability Issues in Schools," the United States faces a growing epidemic of high-profile shooting incidents in schools and schools remain one of the safest places for children, the nature of these incidents has led to a growing fear regarding school security. This growing fear has led to calls for stronger measures to insure the safety of students in schools.

Police Departments and School Departments around the country have developed cooperative plans and strategies to deal with the worst situation imaginable. School police and security have become a commonplace in our schools. Shonto Preparatory School does not wish to ever see the tragic consequence that happened in the high school of Littleton, Connecticut. Therefore, the Governing Board approves the following policy

## II. POLICY STATEMENT:

It is the policy of the Governing Board to have a zero tolerance for weapons, simulated weapons, or replicas of weapons on school premises by any student, employee, volunteer, visitor, or other person.

## III. EXCEPTIONS TO POLICY:

Law enforcement and military authorities may carry weapons on campus during the course of their duties.

## IV. AMPLIFYING INSTRUCTIONS AND GUIDELINES:

### A. DEFINITIONS

i. "WEAPON" An object or article meets the definition of the term "weapons" if it can be used or is intended to be used to injure persons or to damage property.  
Examples of weapons include, but are not limited to the following:

- Blow gun;
- Bomb;
- Explosive;
- Mace or other spray devices;
- Gas or other forms of toxic fumes;
- Brass knuckles or other punching apparatus;
- Gun or firearm (regardless of type, i.e., pistol, rifle, shotgun, etc., and regardless of whether it is loaded or unloaded);
- Dart/spear/lance;
- Strangling apparatus;
- Club or other hitting apparatus;



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- Knife (regardless of type or size, i.e., bowie, stiletto, switchblade, etc.);
- Any other instrument or object whose design is intended to injure or kill
- Any parts or combination of parts of a weapon.

ii. "SIMULATED WEAPONS OR REPLICAS OF WEAPONS": Any instrument or object displayed or represented as a weapon for the specific purpose of intimidation or threat.

iii. "SCHOOL PREMISES": The school, school grounds, school buses, or any premises, grounds, or vehicles used for school purposes, including premises where school-sponsored events are held away from school grounds.

### B. FAIR AND REASONABLE INTERPRETATIONS OF WEAPON PROHIBITION

Although prohibitions against weapons on school are absolute, it is also expected that the School's administration will use good judgment regarding what constitutes a weapon. The school's administration will consider the totality of the circumstances in determining whether an object is a weapon. Circumstances may include such factors as the nature of the object, the object's intended purposes(s), and the intent of the person possessing the object.

### C. PERMITS TO CARRY WEAPONS NOT VALID

The fact that someone may have a license or permit to carry a weapon does not exempt the person from this policy.

### D. BAN OF WEAPONS IN VEHICLES OR RESIDENTIAL HOUSING

No weapon, simulated weapon, or replica of a weapon may be stored in any vehicle that enters the school campus or in any residential housing rented by employees or non-employees unless such weapon has been registered with the Navajo Police or Shonto Security.

### E. POLICE NOTIFICATION

Any school employee who observes a violation of this policy shall immediately report the violation to a school administrator. The administrator shall immediately report the violation to a peace officer, pursuant to A.R.S. §15-515.

### F. SEARCHES

Searches of students may be conducted pursuant to Policy JIH>

### G. CONFISCATION OF WEAPONS

School employees are empowered to confiscate and secure any item believed to be a weapon and intended to be used for that purpose. The employee shall immediately notify a school administrator.



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## H. DISCIPLINARY ACTION

1. Any student who violate this policy shall be subject to discipline, up to an including expulsion.
2. Any school employee who violates this policy shall be subject to discipline, up to and including termination from employment.

## I. POSTING OF SIGNS REGARDING WEAPONS-FREE CAMPUS

The Director of Support Services shall post signs and maintain them on the roads entering the campus which states that the Shonto Preparatory School campus is to be free of weapons.

## V. DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY:

- A. The Superintendent of Schools is directly responsible for communicating this policy to all appropriate parties and enforcing its provisions.
- B. Each school principal is responsible for communicating this policy annually to all students, parents, and staff under his/her jurisdiction.

## VI. REPORTS:

The governing Board shall receive a report of any student or staff member who is expelled or terminated from employment as a result of this policy's enforcement.

## VII. EXPIRATION DATE:

This policy will not expire, but will be up for review three (3) years after its acceptance.

## VIII. SIGNATURE BLOCK:

Submitted by: Lemual B. Adson Date: 11/16/13  
Superintendent

1<sup>st</sup> Review Reading: November 16, 2013

Approved: December 6, 2013

Established:   
Martha Tate, President,  
Shonto Governing Board of Education, Inc.