



AP 356 – WEAPONS

BACKGROUND

Saskatoon Public Schools is committed to providing safe, caring, and accepting learning environments for all students, staff, and community members. The possession, use or threat of use of weapons, explosives, firearms, replica weapons, or other dangerous instruments is strictly prohibited on division property, on the way to and from school, or during any school-related activity.

Weapons incidents represent a serious risk to safety and require immediate and coordinated action. The Division responds to such incidents in collaboration with parents/guardians/caregivers, the Saskatoon Police Service, and other partners, through the Community Threat Assessment and Support Protocol (CTASP).

The Division expects employees to act swiftly, appropriately, and decisively when contraventions of this administrative procedure occur. Students in possession of firearms, explosives, or items of similar danger will be subject to reprimand, suspension, expulsion, or other forms of discipline.

DEFINITIONS

Weapon – Any object designed, used, or intended to cause injury, harm, or intimidation, or control of others, or to otherwise endanger the safety of any person. Examples include, but are not limited to:

- Firearms.
- Explosives or fireworks.
- Knives, blades, or other cutting instruments that are not required for approved school activities.
- Clubs, brass knuckles, or improvised weapons.
- Incendiary devices or materials including any object used to ignite or spread fire.
- Chemical or irritant sprays such as bear spray, pepper spray, or mace.
- Conducted energy weapons such as tasers or stun guns.
- Any other dangerous instrument that poses a risk of harm to self or others.

Replica Weapon – An object that is not a real weapon but is designed to imitate one and may reasonably be perceived as a threat.

Firearm – A device from which a projectile can be discharged by means of an explosive, compressed air, gas, or spring, whether real, disabled, or inoperable. This includes handguns, rifles, shotguns, pellet guns, BB guns, and airsoft guns.

PROCEDURES

1. Prohibition
 - 1.1. Explosives, firearms, replica weapons, or any dangerous instruments or materials are not permitted on school property, at school activities, or during transport to and from school.
 - 1.2. Exceptions may be granted by the Principal only for authorized educational or cultural activities with approval from their Superintendent.



2. Immediate Response

- 2.1. Any individual in possession of a weapon must be reported immediately to the Principal or designate.
- 2.2. Principals will take immediate action to ensure safety, including removal of the student (if safe to do so), securing the weapon, and contacting police.
- 2.3. Police involvement is mandatory in all cases involving firearms, replica firearms, explosives, or weapons capable of causing serious injury or death.

3. Investigation and Violence Threat Risk Assessment

- 3.1. The principal or designate will initiate an investigation in accordance with Administrative Procedure 354 – Discipline.
- 3.2. All weapons incidents shall be assessed through the Violence Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA) process and Administrative Procedure 357 to determine the level of risk and required interventions.

4. Discipline and Consequences

- 4.1. Discipline and consequences will be guided by Administrative Procedure 354 – Discipline.
- 4.2. Consequences will be determined in consultation with the Superintendent of Education and may include reprimand, suspension and/or expulsion under the *Education Act*, Sections 151 to 153 and Section 175.
- 4.3. Written records of the incident, investigation, and outcomes shall be documented by the Principal and recorded on a Student Incident Report form in Clevr.

Reference: Administrative Procedure 354: Discipline
Administrative Procedure 357: Violence Threat Risk Assessment: Students
The Education Act, 1995, Sections 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 175, and 193
Community Threat Assessment and Support Protocol

Date Last Revised: October 2025