

**DANGEROUS INSTRUMENTS AND WEAPONS IN SCHOOL**

1. The Bartlett School Board, cognizant of its responsibilities to provide for a safe and healthy environment wherein students can learn, sets forth and establishes a policy prohibiting dangerous instruments and weapons in school.
2. No student, staff member, or visitor shall possess upon school premises any dangerous instrument, firearm, dangerous chemical, explosive device, or weapon.
3. For the purpose of this policy, a firearm is any weapon, including a starter gun, which will, or is designed to, or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive, the frame or receiver of such weapon; any firearm muffler or silencer; or any destructive device.
4. A weapon is defined as any instrument capable of inflicting bodily harm. Included within the definition of weapon, but not intended as a limitation on the definition, are switchblade knives, gravity knives, pilum ballistic knives, cane swords, electronic dart guns, chukka sticks and Kung-Fu stars. The aforestated enumeration of weapons is not intended to be exhaustive but merely illustrative. Dangerous instruments are defined as items or implements which under the circumstances in which such instruments are used, attempted to be used, threatened to be used are readily capable of inflicting bodily harm or threat of same.
5. School premises shall mean school grounds, buildings and/or facilities, whether owned by the School District or at lease to the School District and shall also include school buses and vehicles parked on the school grounds.
6. An exception to the prohibition set forth in this policy may be made with prior approval and arrangements made with the principal, in an instance where a weapon is part of a dramatic or music performance, or is used as an artifact in an instrumental unit. In these instances, the administration will be responsible for the proper storage of the weapon.
7. New Hampshire State law enforcement officers are the only individuals permitted upon school premises to have a weapon, dangerous instrument or firearm in their possession.
8. After a hearing pursuant to New Hampshire RSA 193:13, any student having been found guilty of bringing a firearm or dangerous instruments and weapons upon school premises shall, as a penalty, be suspended for a period of one year, provided that the Superintendent, after considering the totality of the circumstances surrounding the offense, and the student's previous record, shall have the authority to modify the one year penalty on a case by case basis. Further, nothing in this policy shall be construed to limit any rights possessed by students classified as disabled.