

Rutherford County Board of Education

Monitoring: Review: Annually, in April	Descriptor Term: Zero Tolerance Offenses	Descriptor Code: 6.309	Issued Date: 08/15/13
		Rescinds: 6.309	Issued: 01/12/12

1 In order to ensure a safe and secure learning environment, the following offenses will not be toler-
2 ated:

3 **WEAPONS & DANGEROUS INSTRUMENTS**

4 Students shall not possess, handle, transmit, use or attempt to use any dangerous weapon in school build-
5 ings or on school grounds at any time, or in school vehicles and/or buses or off the school grounds at
6 a school-sponsored activity, function or event.¹

7 Dangerous weapons for the purposes of this policy shall include, but are not limited to a firearm or
8 anything manifestly designed, made or adapted for the purpose of inflicting death or serious bodily
9 injury or anything that in the manner of its use or intended use is capable of causing death or serious
10 bodily injury.²

11 Violators of this section shall be subject to suspension and/or expulsion from school.

12 **Firearms (as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 921)³**

13 In accordance with state law, any student who brings or possess a firearm on school property shall be
14 expelled for a period of not less than one (1) calendar year. The director of schools shall have the au-
15 thority to modify this expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis.⁴

16 **DRUGS**

17 In accordance with state and federal law, any student who unlawfully possesses/distributes or is under
18 the influence of any drug including any controlled substance, legend drug or prescription drug shall
19 be expelled for a period of not less than one (1) calendar year. The director of schools shall have the
20 authority to modify this expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis.⁵

21 **ASSAULT**

22 In accordance with state law, any student who commits aggravated assault, as defined in 39-13-102, upon
23 any teacher, principal administrator, any other employee of the school or school resource officer shall be
24 expelled for a period of not less than one (1) calendar year. The director of schools shall have the authority
25 to modify this expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis.⁵

26 **VANDALISM OF SCHOOL PROPERTY OVER \$500**

27 Any student who commits vandalism of school property which results in the student being criminally
28 charged with vandalism over \$400 pursuant to T.C.A. § 39-14-408 shall be expelled for a period of not
29 less than one (1) calendar year. The director of schools shall have the authority to modify this expulsion
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1 requirement on a case-by-case basis.⁵

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3 **OTHER OFFENSES**

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5 Any student who makes bomb threats, commits sexual misconduct that results in the student being crimi-
6 nally charged with sexual battery, sexual assault, indecent exposure, rape or aggravated sexual battery,
7 shall be expelled for a period of not less than one (1) calendar year. The director of schools shall have the
8 authority to modify this expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis.⁵

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10 **ELECTRONIC THREATS**

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12 In accordance with state law, any student who transmits by an electronic device any communication
13 containing a credible threat to cause bodily injury or death to another student or school employee and
14 the transmission of such threat creates actual disruptive activity at the school that requires administrative
15 intervention shall be expelled for a period of not less than one (1) calendar year. The director of schools
16 shall have the authority to modify this expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis.⁶

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18 **NOTIFICATION**

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20 When it is determined that a student has violated this policy, the principal of the school shall notify the
21 student’s parent or guardian and the criminal justice or juvenile delinquency system as required by law.⁷

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40 Legal References:

- 41 1. TCA 39-17-1309
- 42 2. TCA 39-11-106(a)(5)(A)(B)
- 43 3. 18 U.S.C. 921
- 44 4. 20 U.S.C. § 8921; TCA 49-6-4216(b);TCA 49-6-3401(g)
- 45 5. TCA 49-6-3401(g);TCA 49-6-4216(b)
- 46 6. TCA 49-6-4216(a)(2)(C)
- 47 7. TCA 49-6-4209; TCA 39-17-1312

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