

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804**

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

June 21, 2024

Dear Parent(s)/Legal Guardian(s):

The safety and security of all students remain a priority for the Hawaii State Department of Education. "No Firearms Allowed on Campus" is our annual statewide campaign to remind you and your child/children of the consequences of a firearm violation. Please share with your child/children the dangers of bringing a firearm to school. Should your child bring a firearm to school, he/she shall be removed from school for at least one calendar year. Firearms are strictly prohibited on all of our school campuses, in your child/children's backpacks, on the school bus and/or at all school-related activities.

"Firearm" as defined by Hawaii Administrative Rules Title 8, Chapter 19 Student Misconduct, Discipline, School Searches and Seizures, Reporting Offenses, Police Interviews and Arrests, Restitution for Vandalism, Complaint Procedure and Investigation of Discrimination, Harassment (Including Sexual Harassment), Bullying and/or Retaliation means:

- (1) Any weapon, including but not limited to a starter gun, shotgun, or air gun which includes BB guns, pellet guns, paintball guns, or crossbows or any other instrument that will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile;
- (2) The frame or receiver of any such weapon;
- (3) Any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; or
- (4) Any destructive device. The term "destructive device" means:
 - a. Any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas:
 - (i) Bomb;
 - (ii) Grenade;
 - (iii) Rocket having a propellant charge;
 - (iv) Missile having an explosive or incendiary charge;

AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

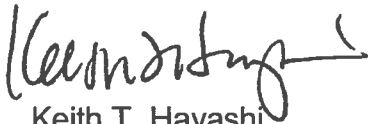
Parent(s)/Legal Guardian(s):

- (v) Mine; or
- (vi) Device similar to any of the devices described in the preceding clause;
- b. Any type of weapon which will, or which may be readily converted to expel a projectile, including but not limited to a weapon that expels a projectile by action of an explosive or other propellant; or
- c. Any combination or parts either designed or intended for use in converting any device described above, and from which a destructive device may be readily assembled.

In addition, we emphasize that toy guns, including but not limited to Nerf guns, water guns, super soakers, spud guns, rubber band guns, gel guns, prop guns, or other types of toy guns, are strictly prohibited on campus. Depending on the circumstances, even a toy gun may be considered a firearm.

Only the Superintendent of Education or designee, on a case-by-case basis, may modify a student's dismissal. If you have any questions, please contact your school principal. Thank you for helping to keep our Hawaii schools safe for our children and school community.

Sincerely,



Keith T. Hayashi
Superintendent

KTH:ms
Attachment



NO FIREARMS ALLOWED ON CAMPUS



Any firearm including but is not limited to a starter gun, shotgun, air guns which includes BB guns, pellet guns, paintball guns, or cross bow or any other instrument which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile. In addition to the definition of a firearm, as outlined in HAR Chapter 19, it's imperative to emphasize that toy guns, including but not limited to Nerf guns, water guns, super soakers, spud guns, rubber band guns, prop guns, or other types of toy guns, are strictly prohibited on campus.

The possession or use of a firearm is prohibited on campus, or other Department premises, or during a Department sponsored activity or event, on or off school property.

A student will be dismissed for no less than 180 school days.

Only the Superintendent of Education or designee, on a case-by-case basis, may modify the dismissal of a student found to be in possession of a firearm.

There are also additional considerations taken for students with disabilities.