



Series: 400 (Miscellaneous)
Policy Title: Weapons and the Threat of Violence
Effective Date: May 15, 2015
Version: 1.1

1.0 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to maintain a learning environment which is safe and secure for students, faculty and administration.

2.0 Applicability

This applies to all Our Lady of the Angels Catholic School students, faculty, staff and volunteers, as well as all visitors (e.g., vendors, contractors, alumni, parents).

3.0 Policy

Weapons

- 3.1 Federal law bans possession of firearms within an elementary or secondary school, on school property, or within 1,000 feet of school property.
- 3.2 Federal law exempts law enforcement officers acting in their official capacity.
- 3.3 Our Lady of the Angels Catholic School recognizes its responsibility to ensure school safety of students, staff or other persons on school property and are forbidden to possess, handle, carry or use any instrument in school, or on school grounds or at school sponsored events that can be considered a weapon.
- 3.4 The Principal reserves the right to define “weapon” in the case of objects other than the obvious guns or knives.
- 3.5 The definition of a weapon includes, but is not limited to any firearm, knife, explosive, or object, even if manufactured for a nonviolent purpose, that has a potentially violent use, or any “look-alike” object that resembles an object that has a potentially violent use, if, under the surrounding circumstances as determined by the administrator, the purpose of keeping or carrying the object is for use, or threat of use, as a weapon.

Violence and the Threat of Violence

- 3.6 Violence is inconsistent with the unity and peace that are essential to living the Catholic faith.
- 3.7 Violence inhibits human development and successful learning.
- 3.8 Violence consists of words, gestures and actions that result in or have the potential to result in hurt, fear or injury.
- 3.9 Violence includes threats of injury, harassment, assault, possession and/or use of a weapon, theft or vandalism of property.

Violation of this Policy

- 3.10 Any student found to be in violation of this policy shall be subject to discipline, including long-term suspension and expulsion.

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- 3.11 Any student threatening violence will be removed from the classroom until the Principal deems appropriate for the student to return.
- 3.12 The Principal is the final recourse in all disciplinary situations.
- 3.13 The Principal will deal with such incidents according to the requirements of state law, local ordinances and accepted educational practices and procedures will be followed at the principal's discretion.
- 3.14 Depending on the severity of the threat or act of violence, the Principal may request that the parent withdraws the student from the school or the student may face possible expulsion.

4.0 References

- 4.1 Diocesan Policy 5136 A: Harassment, Bullying and Cyber Bullying
- 4.2 Diocesan Policy 5136 B: Sexual Harassment
- 4.3 Diocesan Policy 5137.5: Weapons or Threats of Violence

Reverend Fr. Lawrence
 Pastor, Holy Trinity Church

Rev. Mark M. Spatol
 Pastor, Saint Peter Church

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