



# Tennessee School Boards Association

Descriptor Term:

## Zero Tolerance Offenses

Descriptor Code:

**6.309**

Issued Date:

**02/14/03**

Rescinds:

Issued:

1 In order to ensure a safe and secure learning environment, the following offenses will not be tolerated:

2  
3 **WEAPONS & DANGEROUS INSTRUMENTS**

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

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

12  
13 Violators of this section shall be subject to suspension and/or expulsion from school.

14  
15 **Firearms (as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 921)<sup>3</sup>**

16  
17 In accordance with state law, any student who brings or possess a firearm on school property shall be  
18 expelled for a period of not less than one (1) calendar year. The director of schools shall have the authority  
19 to modify this expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis. <sup>4</sup>

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22 **DRUGS**

23  
24 In accordance with state law, any student who unlawfully possesses any drug including any controlled  
25 substance or legend drug shall be expelled for a period of not less than one (1) calendar year. The director  
26 of schools shall have the authority to modify this expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis. <sup>5</sup>

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29 **BATTERY**

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31 In accordance with state law, any student who commits battery upon any teacher, principal administrator,  
32 any other employee of the school or school resource officer shall be expelled for a period of not less than  
33 one (1) calendar year. The director of schools shall have the authority to modify this expulsion requirement  
34 on a case-by-case basis. <sup>5</sup>

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**NOTIFICATION**

When it is determined that a student has violated this policy, the principal of the school shall notify the student’s parent or guardian and the criminal justice or juvenile delinquency system as required by law.<sup>6</sup>

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Legal References:

1. TCA 39-17-1309
2. TCA 39-11-106(a)(5)(A)(B)
3. 18 U.S.C. 921
4. 20 U.S.C. § 8921; TCA49-6-4216(b);TCA 49-6-3401(g)
5. TCA 49-6-3401(g);TCA49-6-4216
6. TCA 49-6-4209; TCA 39-17-1312

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Cross References:

- Discipline Procedures 6.313  
Suspension/Expulsion/Remand 6.316