

POLICY: WEAPONS-FREE SCHOOL ZONE

J PAUL TAYLOR ACADEMY

www.jaultayloracademy.org

PROPOSED MARCH 2019

Adoption date: _____

I. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish J. Paul Taylor (JPTA) as a weapon- and gun-free zone consistent with federal and state law, and further specify who, when, and for what limited purpose a firearm or weapon can be carried on school premises.

II. Background

The State of New Mexico has established schools as deadly-weapon- and gun-free zones by:

- a. Making it a violation of the Code of Ethical Responsibility of the Education Profession to bring firearms onto school property or possess them on school property without proper authorization (6.60.9.9(C)(23)(c) NMAC);
- b. Prohibiting volunteers in schools from bringing or possessing firearms or other weapons on school property except with proper authorization (6.50.18.8(C)(19) NMAC);
- c. Requiring schools to prohibit private persons who use school facilities from having guns on school property except for those in the possession of authorized law enforcement personnel (6.50.17.8(G)(2) NMAC);
- d. Requiring schools to adopt a policy to provide for the expulsion from school, for a period of not less than one year, of any student who is determined to have knowingly brought a weapon to school (NMSA 1978, § 22-5-4.7(A) (1995)); and
- e. Making it unlawful to carry a deadly weapon on school premises except as expressly permitted under State statute (NMSA 1978, § 30-7-2.1 (1994)).

III. Specifications

- a. Unless expressly permitted under this policy and state and federal law, JPTA is a weapon- and gun-free zone.
- b. On-duty law enforcement officers may carry firearms on school premises. The firearms do not need to be concealed.
- c. Any person who possesses a firearm on school premises in violation of this policy shall be referred to the appropriate law enforcement authorities for prosecution.
- d. Students who possess a firearm, weapon, or destructive device on school property are subject to discipline imposed under this policy and shall be referred to the appropriate law enforcement authorities for prosecution.
- e. Whether or not a person is found to have engaged in the unlawful carrying of a deadly weapon on school premises, any person found to have violated this policy shall be subject to appropriate consequences, including but not limited to adverse employment action, revocation of

volunteer privileges, revocation of building use privileges, and student discipline.

IV. Student Discipline for Violation

JPTA Administration will expel from school, for a period of not less than one year, any student who is determined to have knowingly brought a weapon to school premises. The Executive Director may modify the expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis.

Legal References: 6.11.2.9 B(8) NMAC; 6.50.17.8(G)(2) NMAC; 6.50.18.8(C)(19) NMAC; 6.60.9.9(C)(23)(c) NMAC; NMSA 1978, § 22-5-4.7(A) (1995); NMSA 1978, § 30-7-2.1 (1994)