



Association of Metropolitan School Districts

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AMSD Position on Guns on School Property

Any person, whether or not they have a permit to carry, who knowingly possesses, stores or keeps a dangerous weapon on school property in violation of state law, should be charged with a felony with the exception of licensed peace officers or military personnel performing official duties.

AMSD BELIEVES

- A safe and healthy learning and work environment is an essential characteristic of an effective school.
- School districts must be given the resources and authority to ensure they can provide safe learning environments for their students and staff.

BACKGROUND

Minnesota law currently prohibits guns from being carried on school property. There are several exceptions to the law however:

- Licensed peace officers as defined by Minnesota Statute 609.66 and in accordance with federal law
- Military personnel, or student participating in military training, who are on-duty, performing official duties;
- persons authorized to carry a pistol under section 624.714 while in a motor vehicle or outside of a motor vehicle to directly place a firearm in, or retrieve it from, the trunk or rear area of the vehicle;
- persons who keep or store in a

motor vehicle pistols in accordance with section 624.714 or 624.715 or other firearms in accordance with section 97B.045;

- firearm safety or marksmanship courses or activities conducted on school property;
- possession of dangerous weapons, BB guns, or replica firearms by a ceremonial color guard;
- a gun or knife show held on school property; possession of dangerous weapons, BB guns, or replica firearms with written permission of the principal or other person having general control and supervision of the school or the director of a child care center; or
- persons who are on unimproved property owned or leased by a child care center, school, or school district unless the person knows that a student is currently present on the land for a school-related activity.

Under current law, non-permit holders knowingly bringing a dangerous weapon on school property are guilty of a felony while a permit holder violating the law is only guilty of a misdemeanor.