**CODE C5**
**(REQUIRED)**

# FIREARMS

**Policy**
It is the policy of the Caledonia Central Supervisory Union and its member School District to comply with the federal Gun Free Schools Act of 1994 and state law requiring school districts to provide for the possible expulsion of students who bring firearms to or possess firearms at school. It is further the intent of the board to maintain a student discipline system consistent with the requirements of the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Vermont State Board of Education rules.

**Definitions**
For the purposes of this policy, the terms "firearm" "school" and "expelled" shall be defined consistent with the definitions required by state and federal law.

**Sanctions**
Any student who brings a firearm to school, or who possesses a firearm at school shall be brought by the superintendent to the school board for an expulsion hearing.

A student found by the school board after a hearing to have brought a firearm to school shall be expelled for at least one calendar year. However, the school board may modify the expulsion on a case-by-case basis when it finds circumstances such as, but not limited to:

1. The student was unaware that they had brought a firearm to school.
2. The student did not intend to use the firearm to threaten or endanger others.
3. The student is disabled and the misconduct is related to the disability.
4. The student does not present an ongoing threat to others and a lengthy expulsion would not serve the best interests of the pupil.

At the discretion of the school board and administration, an expelled student may be afforded limited educational services at a site other than the school during the period of expulsion under this policy.

**Policy Implementation**
An expulsion hearing conducted under this policy shall afford due process as required by law and as developed by the superintendent or designee.

The superintendent shall refer to the appropriate law enforcement agency any student who brings a firearm to a school under the control and supervision of the school district. The superintendent may also report any incident subject to this policy to the Department for Children and Families (DCF).

The superintendent shall annually provide the Secretary of Education with descriptions of the circumstances surrounding expulsions imposed under this policy, the number of students expelled and the type of firearms involved.

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| VSBA Review: | Reviewed 9/22/2022 |
| Date Warned: | September 5th, 2025 - Caledonia Central Supervisory Union |
| Date Adopted: | *September 15th, 2025* - Adopted by the Caledonia Central Supervisory Union Board on behalf of the District boards: Peacham School District, Danville School District, Caledonia Cooperative School District, Twinfield School District and Cabot School District |
| Legal Reference(s): | 16 V.S.A. § 1166 (State law pursuant to Federal law) |
| | 13 V.S.A. §§ 4004, 4016 (Criminal offenses) |
| | 20 U.S.C. § 7151(Gun Free Schools Act) |
| | 18 U.S.C. § 921 (Gun Free School Zones Act of 1990) |
| | 20 U.S.C. §§ 1400 et seq.(IDEA) |
| | 29 U.S.C. § 794 (Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973) |
| | Vt. State Board of Education Manual of Rules & Practices, §§ 4311, 4313 |
| Cross Reference: | Search and Seizure |
| | Student Conduct and Discipline |