

## Administrative Procedure 356

---

# VIOLENCE, WEAPONS AND CRIMINAL OFFENSES

### Background

The Division is committed to providing students and staff with a safe and secure learning environment. In keeping with this commitment, administrative staff at all levels are expected to respond firmly and decisively to behavior which causes or threatens harm to persons or property.

The Division does not tolerate violent or criminal behavior in our schools, on school buses and during school-sponsored activities.

### Procedures

1. Students, who are responsible for actions which cause or threaten harm to persons or property, face formal suspension, expulsion, and when appropriate, referral to police.
2. Students, who bring weapons to school or who brandish any object that is intended to cause bodily harm, will be recommended for suspension or expulsion. A weapon is anything used, intended for use, or has the potential to be used in causing injury or death to persons, whether designed for that purpose or not, or anything used or intended for use for the purpose of threatening or intimidating any person.
3. Students who, in the absence of mitigating circumstances, assault another person and cause serious injury will be recommended for expulsion. In such cases, the police will be notified.
4. Students, who possess, consume or are under the influence of alcoholic beverages or drugs for non-medical purposes while at school, will be suspended and recommended for possible expulsion. In such cases the police will be notified.
5. Principals, in consultation with staff and School Council, shall develop a set of rules and standards for their schools.

References: Preamble, Sections 1, 8, 12, 18, 20, 22, 24, 27, 45, 60, 123, 124, 125, School Act  
 Student Record Regulation A.R. 71/99  
 Alberta Education Policy 3.4.1: Review by the Minister  
 Alberta Education Policy 2.1.5: Teacher Growth, Supervision, and Evaluation  
 Teaching Quality Standard (Ministerial Order 016/97)  
 Basic Education in Alberta (Ministerial Order 004/98)  
 Guide to Education: ECS to Grade 12  
 Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms  
 Individual's Rights Protection Act  
 Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act  
 A Safe Place: Creating Peaceful Schools (1994)  
 A.T.A. Code of Professional Conduct

