DISTRICT
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE
ANSBACH, GERMANY

DoDDS-DSO, Bavaria

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Dear Parents,

As you know we are very concerned that we keep our schools free from weapons and safe.

We can do that with your help. To support a Zero Tolerance for Weapons (ZTW) program on weapons please remind your children that weapons, replicas of weapons, or other items that can be used as weapons are not allowed at school.

Remind them that the penalties are severe, and a warning will not be given beforehand. Remind them that ZTW applies on school buses, in the lunchroom, on the playground, or at any school activity or function.

Also, remind them that if they assist someone or know of someone who has a weapon and don't report it to a school official, they can also be in trouble.

Please explain that it would be very unfortunate if someone were injured, or the school's safe environment were violated, or someone was threatened or frightened because a weapon or replica was brought to school, or a student was threatened with an item not usually considered a weapon.

It would also be unfortunate if a student were suspended or expelled unnecessarily from school because together we didn't properly inform students of our Zero Tolerance for Weapons program.

I have asked our Principals and Teachers to emphasize ZTW. Please make it a priority of yours to spend a few minutes discussing this matter with your child/ren, no matter their age. Young children are as likely to bring a weapon to school as older students. Your assistance is vital and appreciated.

Thank You,

MICHAEL J. THOMPSON
BAVARIA DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

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Zero Tolerance For Weapons (ZTW)

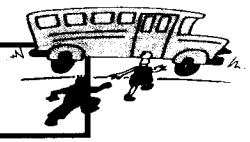
Bavaria
District Superintendent's
Office

Zero Tolerance

What Does It Mean?

Zero Tolerance means that weapons or replicas are not allowed in school. Precise steps will quickly be taken to rectify the problem. **Severe corrective action and punitive actions** will be taken. **No leniency** will be shown towards violators.

Are School Busses School Property?



You bet they are! **Weapons are not allowed on school busses**, nor at any school functions or activities.

Can Students Get Into Trouble If They Know About or Assist Someone Who Has a Weapon?

Yes! Knowing about a weapon without reporting it to a school official is considered a policy infraction.

Can Students Get Into Trouble For Bringing A Knife To School For a Scout Meeting After School, Even If They Keep It In Their Backpack?

Don't chance it! The knife could accidentally fall out and your child would be in **violation of the policy**.

Is Threatening Someone With An Object Not Normally Considered a Weapon An Infraction?

Yes! Items not designed as weapons, but used as weapons to harm, frighten, or threaten someone are **considered weapons**.

Can Students Be Expelled or Suspended From School For Bringing in Items That Look Like Weapons?

Items that resemble weapons will be considered as a weapon replica and are not allowed at school -- even toys that look like weapons! While the discipline imposed will depend on the circumstances, suspension or expulsion is possible.

What Disciplinary Actions Can Be Expected For Violation of the ZTW Policy?

Disciplinary actions taken are guided by DoDEA Regulation 2051.1, Department of Defense Education Activity Disciplinary Rules and Procedures. Actions taken may vary dependent on the circumstances, but there is a minimum of a one year expulsion for having a firearm on school property. In addition, Military Authorities and German Authorities will be involved in serious incidents and could take additional action.

REFERENCES

- DoDEA Regulation 2051.1, Department of Defense Education Activity Disciplinary Rules and Procedures, Aug 16, 1996
- DoDEA Regulation 4700.2, DoDEA Internal Physical Security, Mar 27, 2001
- DoDEA Manual 2005.1, Department of Defense Dependent Schools Administrators' Guide, January 5, 1996.
- DoDEA Manual 2051.2, DoDEA Student Responsibilities and Privileges, February 26, 1997