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Wednesday, March 2, 2016

Dear Parents/Caregivers:

Over the past several months, Prairie Spirit School Division has been developing a formal procedure regarding weapons in schools. The procedure provides a consistent approach for all Prairie Spirit schools to follow to ensure the safety of students and staff.

The procedure states that students and adults must not possess or use real or replica weapons on school premises or at school-sponsored activities held off school premises. This also includes transportation on the school bus. **There are no exceptions to this procedure.**

Examples of weapons include, but are not limited to:

- hand guns
- rifles
- shot guns
- air rifles
- knives
- tasers
- laser pointers
- pepper spray
- multi-tools that include a blade
- any liquid, spray or powder capable of injuring, immobilizing or otherwise incapacitating any person
- daggers
- crossbows
- explosives
- tear gas
- mace

Under certain circumstances, the principal, in consultation with the school division, may give permission for an item to be in the school that could be considered to be a weapon (e.g., tools or equipment for Practical and Applied Arts or Phys. Ed.).

If other students are aware of a student in possession of a weapon, they should inform a staff member.

In-school administrators are authorized to take the necessary steps to remove weapons from the school. This will include following an established school safety protocol and contacting the police.

The safety of our students is our first priority. Our dedicated staff members work every day to ensure our students are learning in a safe and caring environment.

If you have any questions or if you would like to review the procedures document, please contact your school.

Sincerely,

Dave Carter, Coordinator of Schools and Learning