may suspend for up to ten days.

- (1) Theft or attempted theft of another person's property or money by the use of force or fear.
- (2) Willfully causing or attempting to cause damage to, or theft of, any school property.
- (3) Vandalism, arson, or any <u>threat</u> or false threat to bomb, burn, damage, or destroy in any manner a school building, school property, or a school-sponsored activity.
- (4) Attempted theft of another person's prescription medication. A report shall be made to the police in accordance with the Code of Virginia where the attempted theft is of student medication(s).

5.7. Weapons Violations

Students are expected to report immediately to a school official whenever they observe or otherwise become aware of the presence of a weapon on school property or at a school-sponsored activity. Doing so serves to protect the well-being of other students as well as school officials and where the reporting student is the one who is in <u>possession</u> of the weapon, increases the likelihood of favorable consideration by the <u>principal</u>, or a finding of special circumstances by the <u>Division Superintendent</u>.

a. Possession or Use of Statutory Weapon

- (1) Possession or use of a statutory weapon (as defined below) on school property or at a school-sponsored activity may shall require result in a suspension suspension for up to ten days, unless the referring administrator determines the student's age, background, intent, previous infractions, disability status, and/or other circumstances should not warrant a suspension, and shall result in a referral to the Division Superintendent who will consider a recommendation for expulsion for a period of not less than one year. The principal shall make a referral to the school-based Risk Prevention Team to determine appropriateness for further risk assessment in accordance with Regulation 2111 and other appropriate intervention as designated by the referring administrator. As employed herein, the term "statutory weapon" shall mean the following:
 - (a) Any pistol, revolver, or other weapon designed or intended to propel a missile of any kind by action of an explosion of any combustible material.
 - (b) Any weapon, including a starter gun, that will, or is designed or may readily be converted to, expel single or multiple projectiles by the action of an explosion of a combustible material or the frame or receiver of any such weapon.
 - (c) A pneumatic gun, as defined in <u>Section 15.2-915.4 of the Code of Virginia</u>, including BB gun, paintball gun, or pellet gun.
 - (d) Any destructive device, as defined in Section 22.1-277.07 of the Code of Virginia,

including any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas, bomb, grenade, and other devices and weapons enumerated therein.

(e) A firearm muffler or firearm silencer.

(2) Special Circumstances

Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, the <u>Division Superintendent</u> shall conduct a hearing to determine whether a disciplinary action other than <u>expulsion</u> is appropriate. The School Board or Division Superintendent may determine, based on the facts of the case, that special circumstances exist and that another disciplinary action is appropriate. All <u>statutory weapons</u> violations shall be reported to the police in accordance with the Code of Virginia.

b. <u>Possession</u> or Use of Switchblades, Machetes, and Certain Other Knives

The following violations shall result in a referral to the Division Superintendent and the principal shall suspend for up to ten days, unless the referring administrator determines the student's age, background, intent, previous infractions, disability status, and/or other circumstances should not warrant a suspension. may suspend for up to ten days. The principal shall make a referral to the school-based Risk Prevention Team to determine appropriateness for further risk assessment in accordance with Regulation 2111 and any other appropriate intervention as designated by the referring administrator.

<u>Possession</u> or use of any machete, any switchblade knife (regardless of blade length), or any other knife with a blade length of three inches or more on school property or at a school-sponsored activity. Provided, however, that where a student is found (without having engaged in other prohibited conduct) for the first time to be in possession of a machete, switchblade knife, or other knife with a blade length of three or more inches with no indication that the student intended to use such weapon to threaten, intimidate, or harm another, there will be an expedited review of the written record.

- (1) In the event the <u>Division Superintendent</u> finds special circumstances on the written record, the student shall receive the following: a suspension of up to 10 days; probationary conditions; and a temporary removal for not more than 21 calendar days from all <u>student activities</u>, to include participation as a spectator or audience member. Students may not participate in competition or practice with teams, clubs, and all other school-sponsored activities. Students may be allowed to participate in convocation and the graduation ceremony even though they fall within the timeline of the temporary removal from activities. Certain violations will result in a student being ineligible to participate in graduation ceremonies.
- (2) In the event the <u>Division Superintendent</u> does not find special circumstances on the written record, the Division Superintendent should hold a hearing to determine what disciplinary action, if any, should be imposed, subject to any right the student may have under this regulation to appeal to the School Board.
- (3) Use of Other Weapon