

POLICY

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
HIGH POINT REGIONAL**

NO. 7446

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School Security

The High Point Board of Education is entrusted with protecting school staff members, students, and visitors in the school buildings of the school district. In order to enhance the safety of all building occupants and to further protect all building occupants, the Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools may approve and provide a written authorization for a law enforcement officer who retired in good standing, is an employee of the Board of Education and who has a valid permit to carry a handgun issued pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2C:58-4, to possess a handgun in school building or on school grounds during his/her workday provided the employee meets the exception to N.J.S.A. 2C:39-5(b.) outlined in N.J.S.A. 2C:39-6(l.).

A school staff member who is appointed to such a position will serve in the following positions: director of safety and security (“director”) or school security officer. In order to be considered for appointment, the school staff member, must provide a written application to the Superintendent of Schools requesting permission to carry a handgun in school buildings and on school grounds during his/her workday. This school staff member must provide the Superintendent of Schools with documentation supporting compliance with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 2C:39-6(l.), including but not limited to, a copy of the identification card issued by the Superintendent of the State Police permitting the retired officer to carry a handgun in accordance with N.J.S.A. 2C:39-6(l.)4).

After reviewing the request from the school staff member, the Superintendent of Schools will contact the Superintendent of the State Police to confirm the school staff member’s permit to carry a handgun. The Superintendent of Schools will review the staff member’s request with the Chief of Police and if there is no local law enforcement agency, with the school district’s New Jersey State Police liaison. The Superintendent of Schools will also submit the request to the school district’s insurance company and the school staff member appointment will be dependent upon receipt of written confirmation from the school district’s insurance company that sufficient insurance coverage will be provided to the school district and school employees should any liability arise from the proposed school resource officer’s handgun. The sufficiency of such insurance coverage shall be at the sole discretion of the Board of Education, and insufficient insurance coverage may independently form the basis for denial of a school staff member appointment as either the director-or as a school security officer.

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Any application by a school staff member to carry a handgun on school property must be recommended by the Superintendent and approved by the Board of Education. Any authorization will only be for the time period the New Jersey State Police issued identification card is valid and under no circumstances will the authorization exceed one year from the issuance of the identification card. The Superintendent of Schools, if recommending a school staff member be permitted to carry a handgun on school property, will provide the Board of Education with a copy of all the information submitted by the school staff member in support of the application, any documentation from law enforcement agencies, and the responsive information from the district's insurance company. The Board of Education may approve the Superintendent's recommendation after review of the documentation, and upon such approval, the Superintendent of Schools will provide written authorization to the school staff member along with any conditions on the authority to carry a handgun on school property. No director or school security officer will be authorized to carry a handgun beyond the hours of their individual workday, or the boundaries of the school property.

A school staff member approved by the Board of Education as a director or school security officer who is authorized to carry a handgun on school property must comply with all applicable New Jersey laws, including but not limited to: N.J.S.A. 2C:39-4; N.J.S.A. 2C:39-5; N.J.S.A. 2C:39-6; and N.J.S.A. 2C:58-4.

This Policy will be reviewed and approved by the Board attorney for compliance with applicable statutes and administrative code provisions before initial adoption and subsequent re-adoptions by the Board. In addition, this Policy will be reviewed by the Board and adopted by the Board annually.

N.J.S.A. 2C:39-4; 2C:39-5; 2C:39-6; 2C:58-4

Date Adopted: July 15, 2014
Date Revised: September 15, 2015, April 24, 2018