



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804**

OFFICE OF STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

October 19, 2026

TO: Principals (All)
Vice Principals (All)

FROM: Kinau Gardner 
Assistant Superintendent

SUBJECT: Updated: School Year 2026-2027 "No Firearms Allowed on Campus"
Flyer and Parent Letter

This is an update to the memorandum titled School Year 2026-2027 "No Firearms Allowed on Campus" Flyer and Parent Letter, dated June 19, 2026. The flyer and parent letter were physically delivered to schools in September 2026 for distribution well beyond the date of the letter.

Due to the misalignment in the delivery and original date of the letter; an updated parent letter featuring a current date is attached. If the original letter dated June 19, 2026, has already been distributed, no further action is needed. However, schools have the option to print and distribute the updated parent letter.

The Office of Student Support Services apologizes for the inconvenience and is committed to ensure an aligned process moving forward. Should you have any questions, please contact Fern Yoshida, Administrator, Student Support Section, at 808-305-9822 or via email at Fern.Yoshida@k12.hi.us.

KG:fy

Attachment: Updated School Year 2026-2027 "No Firearms Allowed on Campus" Parent Letter

c: Superintendent
Deputy Superintendents
Assistant Superintendents
Complex Area Superintendents
Hawaii State Public Charter School Commission
Office of Student Support Services

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR



KEITH T. HAYASHI
SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

October 19, 2026

Dear Parent(s)/Legal Guardian(s):

The safety and security of all students remain a priority for the Hawai'i State Department of Education. "No Firearms Allowed on Campus" is our annual statewide campaign to remind you and your child/children of the consequences of a firearm violation. Please share with your child/children the dangers of bringing a firearm to school. Should your child bring a firearm to school, he/she/they shall be removed from school for at least one calendar year. Firearms are strictly prohibited on all of our school campuses, in your child/children's backpack(s), on the school bus, and/or at all school-related activities.

"Firearm" as defined by Hawai'i Administrative Rules Title 8, Chapter 19 Student Misconduct, Discipline, School Searches and Seizures, Reporting Offenses, Police Interviews and Arrests, Restitution for Vandalism, Complaint Procedure and Investigation of Discrimination, Harassment (Including Sexual Harassment), Bullying and/or Retaliation means:

- (1) Any weapon, including but not limited to a starter gun, shotgun, or air gun, which includes BB guns, pellet guns, paintball guns, crossbows, or any other instrument that will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile;
- (2) The frame or receiver of any such weapon;
- (3) Any firearm muffler, firearm silencer; or
- (4) Any destructive device. The term "destructive device" means:
 - a. Any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas:
 - (i) Bomb;
 - (ii) Grenade;
 - (iii) Rocket having a propellant charge;
 - (iv) Missile having an explosive or incendiary charge;
 - (v) Mine; or
 - (vi) Device similar to any of the devices described in the preceding clause;

- b. Any type of weapon which will, or which may be readily converted to expel a projectile, including but not limited to a weapon that expels a projectile by action of an explosive or other propellant; or
- c. Any combination or parts either designed or intended for use in converting any device described above, and from which a destructive device may be readily assembled.

In addition, we emphasize that toy guns, including but not limited to Nerf guns, water guns, super soakers, spud guns, rubber band guns, gel guns, prop guns, or other types of toy guns, are strictly prohibited on campus. Depending on the circumstances, even a toy gun may be considered a firearm.

Only the Superintendent of Education or designee may, on a case-by-case basis, modify a student's dismissal. If you have any questions, please contact your school principal. Thank you for helping to keep our Hawai'i schools safe for our children and school community.

Sincerely,



Keith T. Hayashi
Superintendent

KTH:fy
Attachment