

TRENTON BOARD OF EDUCATION

"Children Come First, Los niños son primero"

Dr. Fred McDowell
Superintendent of Schools



Ali Robinson-Rogers
Special Assistant/ Chief of Staff

Dear Trenton Public School Families,

In recent weeks, we have experienced several incidents of students bringing BB guns to school. It is important to understand that while some children may think BB guns are toys, they not only violate the Student Code of Conduct as related to the possession, custody, or use of a weapon, but more importantly, put our children at risk of harm or danger as the result of the high probability of a BB gun being mistaken for a handgun.

We want to be sure, that as a community, we all have a common understanding that BB guns are weapons. A weapon is *any instrument that is not used as intended and is capable of inflicting injury or death to someone*.

Please be reminded that Trenton Public Schools has a *No Tolerance Policy* for weapons. This can be found in our Student Code of Conduct. It is also important to remember that students who are found guilty of possession of a weapon in schools, on school grounds, or on school buses will be subject to expulsion from school and criminal charges being filed with the Trenton Police Department.

The safety of all of our children is our priority. In recent years, there have been too many incidents occurring across this country that have resulted in injuries because a toy has been mistakenly identified as a real weapon.

We are asking your support in monitoring your child's possession of such items in order to maintain a safe environment for our entire school community.

In partnership,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fred McDowell", written over a horizontal line.

Dr. Fred McDowell
Superintendent