LEGISLATIVE REPORT

SUBJECT: Mandatory Expulsion Policy for Possession of a Firearm School Year 2010-2011

REFERENCE: Mandatory Expulsion Policy for Possession of a Firearm Section 302A--1134, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Act 148, Section 2 (1995 Legislature- S.B. 647) Chapter 19, Hawaii Administrative Rules’ definition of “firearms” includes BB guns, pellet guns, paintball guns, or cross bow or any other instrument which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile.

ACTION REQUESTED: Annual report on number of students excluded, types of firearms found in their possession and the schools from which they were excluded.

DOE REPORT: October 31, 2011

With the revision of Chapter 19, Hawaii Administrative Rules, in May 1997, the definition of “firearm” was expanded beyond the federal and state laws to include air guns (which include BB guns or pistols, pellet guns, and or paintball guns).

FINDINGS: School Year 2010-2011 Summary Data

During school year 2010-2011 there were:

| Total number of firearms incidents | 25 |
| Total number of schools involved   | 21 |
| Total number of individual students involved | 36 |
| Total number of complexes involved | 17 |

Types of Firearms:

| Total number handguns | 0 |
| Total number of rifles | 0 |
| Total number of airguns | 19 |
| Total number of explosives | 3 |
| Total number of starter gun | 0 |
| Total number of other firearms | 3 |

Attached is a listing of the firearm incidents by individual schools.
OBSERVED TRENDS:

By Total Number of Incidents

![Graph showing the number of incidents by year]

By Incidents

- Total Number
- 2003-04: 47
- 2004-05: 30
- 2005-06: 104
- 2006-07: 63
- 2007-08: 40
- 2008-09: 24
- 2009-10: 26
- 2010-11: 26

By Total Number of Schools

![Graph showing the number of schools by year]

By Schools

- Total Number
- 2003-04: 24
- 2004-05: 27
- 2005-06: 57
- 2006-07: 41
- 2007-08: 30
- 2008-09: 21
- 2009-10: 23
- 2010-11: 21
By Total Number of Individuals

By Individuals

By Total Number of School Types

By School Types
SUMMARY OF DATA:

Based on the above cumulative data for the eight years past, here are the observed trends:

1. There is a consistent decrease in the total number of incidents, schools, and individuals from school years 2004-2005 to 2010-2011. The “Be Cool! Don’t Be A Fool In School!” campaign was initiated in school year 2005-2006.

2. Between school years 2007-2008 to the 2009-2010, there is increasing number of elementary and middle schools with firearm incidents, primarily with airguns. However, in 2009-2010 to present, a reverse trend is observed where there is a decrease in the number of incidents with elementary and middle schools and an increase with the high school incidents.

3. Airguns continue to constitute the majority of all firearm incidents (73%). A slight increase is noted with incidents related to explosives.
RECOMMENDATIONS:

To continue to ensure the safety and well-being of all students, school campuses, and school communities it is being recommended that:

1. schools continue to annually distribute the “Be Cool! Don't Be A Fool In School!” notices to students and their families regarding the Hawaii Administrative Rules, Chapter 19, Section 8-19-6 (b).

2. school administrators with their school team(s):
   a. routinely examine, analyze, and address their schoolwide discipline data to target identified problem areas.
   b. actively implementing proactive schoolwide discipline action plans.
   c. provide monthly feedback to faculty & staff on student behavior trends.
   d. in partnership with families and their school community councils dialogue and problem solve ways to address maintaining safety and violent free communities.

3. complex area superintendents continue to acknowledge, reinforce, and monitor schools for implementing proactive student behavior practices for schoolwide, classroom, nonclassroom, and individual student and systems to prevent violence escalation.