

8467.1 WEAPON SCREENING

PURPOSE

The safety and security of our students and staff is of utmost importance, without creating an unnatural or frightening experience. The purpose of weapons detection screening is to discourage individuals from bringing weapons or other harmful items e.g., electronic smoking devices, into Union High School and its campus. Weapons detection screening will be used daily including events outside school hours, facilities, and related school functions.

DEFINITION

A “weapon” is defined as any object, device, or instrument that is designed or used to cause bodily harm or injury. This includes, but is not limited to, firearms, knives, explosive devices, and other instruments capable of inflicting harm. Importantly, the definition can also extend to objects that, while not designed as weapons, are used in a manner that could cause harm including any simulated, replica, toy, or look-alike weapon.

“Possession” means having a weapon on one’s person or in an area subject to one’s control in a school location.

Electronic smoking device means “an electronic device that can be used to deliver nicotine or other substances to the person inhaling from the device, including, but not limited to, an electronic cigarette, cigar, cigarillo, or pipe.” N.J. Stat. Ann. § 26:3D-57 (2025)

GENERAL INFORMATION

- All persons entering a school building or attending a school activity may be subject to daily, regular, or random screening with a metal detector. The metal detector may be a walk-through, hand-held, or other type of metal detection device. Bags and parcels also may be searched by means of metal detecting devices, by hand, and/or X-ray Scanning.
- Signs have been posted and information distributed to parents, students and staff explaining the weapons screening policy and what items are prohibited or illegal.
- Weapons are not permitted in the high school or on its premises except for authorized law enforcement.



Refusal to cooperate with the screening procedure will result in the denial of entry and/or disciplinary/legal action. In the case of a District student's refusal to cooperate, a school official may consider the refusal as an element of, but not the sole factor in, their reasonable suspicion analysis.

Persons that do not consent to a metal detection screening may be denied admittance.

- Each person operating a weapons detection screening device shall be trained in the proper use of the device and the detection of any malfunction in the operation of the instrument. Adjustments in the settings of the device shall only be made at the recommendation of law enforcement and/or security staff and at the direction of district and or building administration and in consultation with the device vendor.
- **Clear Book Bags:** All students must carry a clear book bag to school. Please see the image in the regulation for an example of the bags that will be acceptable for use at UHS.
- **Personal Bags for Students:** Students may carry a small, non-clear bag for personal items only, which may be subject to search by school personnel
- **Belongings Search Upon Arrival:** Students' belongings will be checked by school staff upon arrival.
- **Weapons Detection System:** The high school uses a weapons detection system at the following entrances: Door #1, Door #2, and Door #23. All students will be required to pass through the system each morning upon arrival (XTRACT One Weapons Detection system). Please see more information below. At this time, district employees are not required to pass through the system when entering the school building.
- **School Identification Badges:** All students will be **required** to wear their school ID visibly at all times during the school day.
- **Scanning in:** All students will be required to scan in with their ID when they enter the building. Additionally, they will need to scan in at the bathrooms, library, nurse's office, big and small counseling offices, and when exiting the cafeteria at every lunch period.



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- **Cell phones off and away:** All students will be required to have their phones off and away during the instructional day. All students must place their cell phone in the cell phone caddy that is located in every classroom. The cell phone caddy is locked, and NO ONE but the teacher will have access to the caddy.
 - Students will NOT be permitted to retrieve their phones when they are leaving the class to use the restroom.

Adopted: _____, 2025

