Recording Weapon Violations in Infinite Campus during Remote Learning

Pursuant to KRS 158.444, Kentucky public school districts are required to report "all incidents of possession of guns or other deadly weapons on school property or at school functions" in Infinite Campus (IC). As synchronous virtual classes are considered school functions, districts must report weapon violations that occur during class. It can be difficult to determine whether or not a weapon viewed on screen during a virtual class constitutes a weapon violation. To help determine if an incident should be reported in IC, school and district leaders are advised to consider the following three questions:

1. Is the weapon in the student's possession?

Simply being able to see a weapon on screen during a virtual class does not necessarily mean that the weapon is in the student's possession. If the weapon is clearly in the possession of another individual, is on display but not being handled or referenced by the student or is in a locked cabinet or other display cabinet or shelf, the weapon should not be considered in the student's possession. However, if a student is clearly handling a weapon or referencing the weapon that can be viewed while on camera, the student should be considered in possession of the weapon.

2. Is the weapon, in fact, a deadly weapon?

KRS 158.444 requires the recording of "deadly weapons" in IC. If a teacher is unable to determine if a weapon is a "deadly weapon" through the remote viewing, the incident should not be reported. It may be appropriate for the teacher to make follow up contact with the student's guardian to determine if the weapon is a deadly weapon.

3. Was the weapon displayed with the explicit intent to intimidate or threaten?

Viewing a weapon through remote instruction does not necessarily indicate an intent to intimidate or threaten. School and district leaders should use professional judgement to determine if a weapon was displayed with malice of intent. As a general rule, if a situation feels threatening, it likely is threatening. The determination of threat or intimidation is based on the unique facts and circumstances of each situation. School and district leaders should consider all these facts and circumstances when making these determinations.