



OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

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SUPERINTENDENT

Todd A. Jaeger, J.D.

Memorandum

**To: Ms. Deanna M. Day, M.Ed.
State Director, Arizona, Odyssey of the Mind**

**From: Todd A. Jaeger, J.D.
Superintendent**

Date: January 22, 2024

Re: Amphitheater Unified School District Policy Regarding Weapons and Facsimiles During Odyssey of the Mind Competition and Events

At your request, this memorandum will serve to clarify and state the policy of the Amphitheater School District (“Amphi”) regarding the presence or use of weapons (or facsimiles of the same) during Odyssey of the Mind practices, events or competitions held on Amphi property.

Notably, Odyssey of the Mind has its own rule pertaining to possession and/or use of weapons or facsimiles. That rule (OM Program Rules, Chapter V, Rule 15) provides as follows:

Weapons are prohibited from the competition site and tournament venue. If an actual weapon is discovered, it must be removed from the site immediately or it will be confiscated. There is no point deduction. Team--created replicas of weapons that are easily mistaken for real weapons are also prohibited. They must either be changed to look less realistic or be removed from the competition site or they will be confiscated. There is no point deduction. Props that appear and/or are used as a weapon in the performance are allowed provided, they are obviously not real and pose no threat. These include team--made props and toys that do not look like real weapons, such as water pistols, plastic swords, etc. If a team uses a fake weapon in its performance, it must confirm with the Staging Area Judge that it is allowed. It can only be used for practice and during the performance; it must be put away at all other times. This is subject to change according to rules at different tournament site locations. If there’s a question about part of a solution, teams should ask the Tournament Director if something is allowed or disallowed at the venue.

(Emphases added). Amphi policy pertaining to weapons or facsimiles, as it will be applied in the context of OM practices, competitions and events, is entirely consistent with this OM rule, provided Odyssey of the Mind participants fully comply with the entirety of the rule and, in particular, those portions of the rule which are underlined above.

Amphitheater High School • Canyon del Oro High School • Ironwood Ridge High School
Amphitheater Middle School • Coronado K-8 School • Cross Middle School • La Cima Middle School • Wilson K-8 School
Copper Creek Elementary • Donaldson Elementary • Harelson Elementary • Holaway Elementary • Innovation Academy • Keeling Elementary
Mesa Verde Elementary • Nash Elementary • Painted Sky Elementary • Prince Elementary • Rio Vista Elementary • Walker Elementary • Rillito Center • Amphi Academy Online

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