

POLICY

Students 7320
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Adopted 07.11.11

SUBJECT: ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, DRUGS AND OTHER SUBSTANCES (STUDENTS)

Use and/or Possession

The Board of Education recognizes that misuse of drugs, alcohol, tobacco and/or other substances is a serious problem with legal, physical, emotional and social implications for the entire community. Therefore, the consumption, sharing and/or selling, use and/or possession of alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, illegal drugs, counterfeit and designer drugs, or paraphernalia for the use of such drugs is prohibited at any school-sponsored event or on school property and at school functions at all times. The inappropriate use of prescription and over-the-counter drugs also is prohibited.

Being Under the Influence

Persons shall be banned from entering or remaining on school grounds or at a school function when exhibiting behavioral, personal or physical characteristics indicative of having used or consumed alcohol or other impairing substances.

School Property/Function Defined

School property shall mean in or within any building, structure, athletic playing field, playground, parking lot or land contained within the real property boundary line of a public elementary or secondary school; or in or on a school bus as defined in Vehicle and Traffic Law Section 142. A school function shall mean a school-sponsored or school-authorized extracurricular event or activity regardless of where such event or activity takes place, including any event or activity that may take place in another state.

A Comprehensive Program

Through the collaborative efforts of staff, students, parents/guardians and the community as a whole, a comprehensive program shall be developed addressing alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and other substances, which shall include the following elements:

Primary Prevention

Preventing or delaying alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and other substance use/abuse by students shall be the major focus of a comprehensive K through 12 program in which proactive measures of prevention and early intervention are emphasized. This program shall include:

- a) Curriculum, based on recognized principles of effectiveness, which shall be developed and incorporated into instruction at appropriate grade levels, to provide

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prevention-based education to students about the dangers and health risks associated with the use/abuse of alcohol, tobacco, drugs, or other substances ;

- b) Training for school personnel through in-service programs, with up-to-date factual information and materials about alcohol, tobacco, drugs and other substance use/abuse, to reinforce the components of this policy; .
- c) An effort to provide positive alternatives to the use/abuse of alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and other substance , through the promotion of drug/tobacco/alcohol-free special events, service projects and extracurricular activities that will develop and support a positive peer influence and positive student self esteem. Parental involvement with special events and projects will be encouraged, to the extent that is practical, beneficial and desirable;
- d) Efforts to promote and encourage communication with parents, community agencies and law enforcement authorities in order to maintain a consistent message for young people, both in and out of school, about the use/abuse of alcohol, tobacco drugs and other substances.

Intervention

School-based intervention services shall be made available to all students, grades K through 12, and provided by prevention professionals who are appropriately trained . The purpose of intervention is to eliminate any existing use/abuse of alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and other substances and to identify students considered to be at risk for use/abuse. Intervention programming shall include:

- a) Counseling students in groups and as individuals about the use/abuse of alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and other substances . Counselors and school intervention staff assigned for this purpose shall be appropriately trained.;
- b) Referring students to community or other outside agencies when their use/abuse of alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and other substances requires additional counseling and/or treatment. Referral is a key link in school and community efforts and the process is basic to the dissemination of information regarding available counseling and health services;
- c) Providing a supportive school environment designed to continue the recovery process for students returning from treatment. A re-entry program may include continuing student and/or family counseling and emphasizing positive alternatives to the use/abuse of alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and other substance ;
- d) Ensuring confidentiality, as required by state and federal law.

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Disciplinary Measures

Disciplinary measures for students consuming, sharing and/or selling, using and/or possessing alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, illegal drugs, counterfeit and designer drugs, or paraphernalia for the use of such drugs shall be outlined in the District's Code of Conduct on School Property.

Staff Development

There shall be ongoing training of District staff about the components of an effective alcohol, tobacco and other substance abuse prevention program. Training shall include, but not be limited to familiarizing school personnel with District policies and regulations and instructing them about their role in implementing such policies and regulations. Teachers shall be trained to implement the District's alcohol, tobacco, drug and other substance abuse prevention curricula.

Implementation, Dissemination and Monitoring

It shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent to implement this policy through collaboration with school personnel as well as collaboration and/or communication with students, parents/guardians and the community at large.

Additionally, copies of Board policy shall be disseminated to District personnel, and made available to parents/guardians and community members. The Superintendent/designee shall periodically review the tobacco, drugs and alcohol abuse prevention program to determine its effectiveness and support appropriate modifications, as needed.

Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act, as reauthorized by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001
20 United States Code (USC) Section 7101 et seq.
Education Law Section 2801(1)

NOTE: Refer also to Policies #3280 -- Community Use of School Facilities
#3410 -- Code of Conduct on School Property
#7310 -- Student Code of Conduct
#8211 -- Prevention Instruction