

DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE

The Board is committed to the prevention of alcohol and other substance use/abuse. This policy describes the philosophy of the district and the program elements the district will use to promote healthy life styles for its students and to inhibit the use/abuse of alcohol and other substances.

No student may use, possess, sell, or distribute alcohol or other substances, nor may use or possess drug paraphernalia, on school grounds or at school-sponsored events, except drugs as prescribed by a physician. The term "alcohol and/or other substances" shall be construed throughout this policy to refer to the use of all substances including, but not limited to, alcohol, inhalants, marijuana, cocaine, LSD, PCP, amphetamines, heroin, steroids, look-alike drugs, and any of those substances commonly referred to as "designer drugs." The inappropriate use of prescription and over-the-counter drugs shall also be prohibited.

Additionally, the following persons shall be prohibited from entering school grounds or school-sponsored events: any person exhibiting behavior, conduct, or personal or physical characteristics indicative of having used or consumed alcohol and/or other substances, or any person who school personnel have reasonable grounds to suspect has used alcohol and/or other substances.

In order to educate students on the dangers associated with substance abuse, the health education curriculum shall include instruction concerning drug abuse for grades K-12.

Any staff member observing narcotics possession or usage by students shall report the incident immediately to the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee. The Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee shall then seek immediate action. Any drugs or alcohol found shall be confiscated immediately, followed by notification of the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the student(s) involved and the appropriate disciplinary action taken, up to and including permanent suspension and referral for prosecution. In its effort to maintain a drug-free environment, the district shall cooperate to the fullest extent possible with local, state and/or federal law enforcement agencies.

The district will use the following principles as guides for the development of its substance use/abuse prevention efforts and for any disciplinary measures related to alcohol and other substances.

- Alcohol and other substance use/abuse is preventable and treatable.
- Alcohol and other substance use/abuse inhibits the district from carrying out its central mission of educating students.
- The behavior of the Board, the administration, and all school staff should model the behavior asked of students.
- While the district can and must assume a leadership role in alcohol and other substance use/abuse prevention, this goal will be accomplished only through coordinated, collaborative efforts with parents, students, staff, and the community as a whole.

Ref: Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act, 20 U.S.C. §§3171 et seq.
20 U.S.C. §114-5g
42USC §§5101, 11841

34 CFR Part 86

Education Law §§804; 912-a; 3214

General Municipal Law §239-u

Mental Hygiene Law §19.07(c)

Penal Law §§220.00 et seq.

Public Health Law, Article 33

8 NYCRR §§100.2(c); 135.3

New Jersey v. T.L.O., 469 U.S. 325 (1985)

Odenheim v. Carlstadt-East Rutherford Region School District, 211 N.J. Super. 54, 510 AD2d 709 (1985)

People v. Scott D., 34 NY2d 483 (1974)

Matter of Wilson, 28 EDR 254 (1988)

Matter of Pollnow, 22 EDR 547 (1983)

Matter of Vetter, 20 EDR 547 (1981)

Matter of Rodriguez, 8 EDR 214 (1969)

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