

Substance/Drug Abuse

Philosophy

Alcohol, tobacco and drug use or possession is illegal and will not be allowed in the district or during district-sponsored events and activities.

Operational Statements

Given the extensive use and the formal and informal promotion of drugs, alcohol and tobacco use in our society, the district has an obligation to provide drug education that emphasizes prevention. The district further has the obligation to describe intervention and referral procedures, and to outline consequences. The district will provide planned staff development and a public information program for all community members. The district will also access the drug free school moneys and other moneys available for the drug-free schools' efforts.

The following document is the district plan and includes the adopted policies and operational plans for each of the following areas:

1. Prevention education;
2. Intervention/Referral and medical emergency procedures;
3. Consequences and law enforcement relations;
4. Staff development;
5. Public relations programs;
6. Access and use of federal moneys.

Prevention Education

1. The district shall include specific age-appropriate drug, alcohol and tobacco education that is to be taught annually in K-12 classes within the district.
2. The health curriculum will meet all health education common course goals and will integrate drug education into the healthy living section of the curriculum. This will be done through instruction that will emphasize prevention and make known each year the effects of alcohol, drugs and tobacco.

3. The students will also receive instruction as to the laws that relate to alcohol and drug usage and possession. This instruction shall be given through age-appropriate instructional materials.
4. The school district, through instruction and attitude, will help students develop skills to say “no” to drugs and reinforce those positive behaviors that keep students away from drugs and “Turned On” to the excitement of a healthy lifestyle.
5. Lists of school, district, community and regional resources will be on file and will be provided for students, staff and parents. These materials shall be on file in the district office, each principal’s office, each counseling office and each school library in the district.

Intervention/Referral and Emergency Medical Procedures

1. The district emergency plan will have specific instructions in dealing with medical emergencies related to drug or alcohol usage. The procedures to follow will be detailed.
2. These procedures will be presented to students, staff and parents through staff development meetings, student classes and parent forums. This shall be done on an annual basis, or more often if needed.

Program Operation Procedures and Rules

Definitions

“Alcohol” is any substance with an alcohol content, no matter what the percentage of that content may be.

“Drugs” is any illegal or controlled mood altering chemical, medication, look-alike drug, narcotic, marijuana, inhalant, mushroom, habit forming drug, unauthorized prescription drug, abused chemical, dangerous drug, nonprescription (over the counter) drug used in a manner potentially dangerous to the user; codeine, cocaine, heroin, stimulant, depressant, hallucinogen, substance used for mood altering recreational purposes, or any paraphernalia associated with the use of such substances. Tobacco shall be defined as having been processed to be smoked or chewed, and as material that is harmful to the body.

“Tobacco products” is defined to include, but not limited to, any lighted or unlighted cigarette, cigar, pipe, bidi, clove cigarette, and any other smoking product, spit tobacco, also known as smokeless, dip, chew or snuff in any form. This does not include USFDA-approved tobacco products or other therapy products used for the purpose of cessation.

“Jurisdiction” means any place on district grounds, around the district grounds, any time the school has jurisdiction over the student, which would include coming to school in the morning and going from school to home in the afternoon. At any school event at or away from school during the day or in the evening. This would include field trips and activity trips, including all athletic contests and state athletic events. This section is also meant to mean any public or private facility or home that is hosting a school event to which students are invited as a school-approved event. The school district will also consider any vehicle used to transport students to a school event as its jurisdiction for purposes of this policy.

Procedures

1. All students shall be informed of the district definition of drugs and alcohol.
2. All students shall be informed of the areas over which the district shall have jurisdiction.
3. This information shall be passed on to students at the elementary school grades K-5, through teacher discussion at the beginning of the year, as needed throughout the year, and in health lessons related to drug and alcohol usage as covered by policy related to instruction and the adopted health curriculum. Rules related to drugs and alcohol shall also appear in the school handbooks. Information at the middle school grades 6-8 shall be discussed with students as outlined above for grades K-5. Information shall also be in the student handbook and a “sign off” sheet shall be provided for each student so a record shall be on file demonstrating that each middle school student understands the district rules and definitions regarding drugs and alcohol.
 - a. The information at the high school grades 9-12 shall be provided in the same manner as described above for grades 6-8.
 - b. Each new student who arrives after the beginning of school or any student who has missed the information shall have the Drug/Alcohol/Tobacco Policy and Procedures provided specifically for them in the same manner as other students at their grade level.
4. Information for parents can also be found in the handbook for each school that will be provided for each student above grade three. The district definitions and procedures shall also be published in the districtwide paper that is sent to all patrons.
5. Information will also be provided through group parent meetings at each school each year.

Program Operational Procedures and Rules

1. All procedures within the program shall be carried out in a manner which meets federal and state law in terms of due process for each student.
2. The school shall respect the confidentiality of each student.
3. Drug and alcohol consequences shall be listed in each student handbook and printed in the district newspaper (newsletter). These consequences as listed shall be part of the disciplinary code of the school district.
4. All staff, parents and students shall be fully aware of the consequences.
 - a. Students will sign a form indicating they have received all information about the school district drug and alcohol procedure and consequences.
 - b. Staff will be informed through an in-service workshop and written information in the staff handbook.
 - c. Parents, staff, students and patrons will further be informed through the district newsletter.

5. It shall be a part of the disciplinary code in each handbook that all students shall be treated equally, and that students on athletic teams, student body officers, club officers, class officers and all other students who represent the school in extracurricular activities shall have higher standards as role models. With this standard in place, each student who participates in any of the extracurricular activities shall sign a contract stating they understand the rules, will follow the rules, and understand the consequences if they do not follow the rules. This contract shall be provided at each school for each student in extracurricular activities. This contract shall be more specific than the general student body acknowledgment in that it goes beyond just knowing and understanding and includes a compliance section.
6. It shall be the policy of the district that in all violations parents will be notified and, the appropriate authorities notified.
7. For the purpose of this policy and procedure **any** usage no matter how small is a violation of district policy. Therefore any use will be considered abuse.
8. Violators will be suspended and may be recommended for expulsion as per Board policy and published discipline policy. Students may be counseled in assessment and treatment.
9. A list of referral services shall be made available to students, parents, teachers and patrons. These lists shall be made available on a general and specific basis.
10. The district shall maintain a consistent stance on drug or alcohol at any school-sponsored event at any site, including private or public facilities, private homes or out-of-town events.

The district will also hold to the standard that an event at a private or public facility or home that provides alcohol or drugs for students will still create, upon proof, a violation.

The district, in the best interest of its students, is also prepared to call the appropriate authorities in regard to an illegal event given for students even though it is not specifically a school event.