

Drug and Alcohol Use by Students

The District supports a safe and healthy learning environment for students which is free of the detrimental effects of drugs, alcohol and inhalants. Accomplishing this goal requires a cooperative effort among school staff, students, parents, law enforcement and organizations concerned with the use of drugs, alcohol and inhalants by school-aged youth.

In order to promote the safety, health and well-being of students, the District endorses a three-pronged approach to address the issue of drug, alcohol and inhalant use: prevention/education; intervention and discipline. The Superintendent is responsible for developing appropriate administrative procedures, curricula and programs to implement this policy.

Prohibited Conduct

No student shall distribute, dispense, possess, use or be under the influence of any alcoholic beverage, malt beverage, fortified wine or other intoxicating liquor. Nor shall a student manufacture, distribute, dispense, possess, use or be under the influence of any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana, anabolic steroid, or other controlled substance defined in federal or state laws/regulations, any look-alike substance, or a substance that is represented to be a controlled substance. Nor shall a student use or distribute, dispense, or possess any type of nitrates, anesthetics or volatile solvents, such as adhesives, aerosols, gases, or cleaning agents to be used as inhalants.

These prohibitions apply to any student who is on school property, who is in attendance at school or at any school-sponsored activity, or whose conduct at any time or place directly interferes with the operations, discipline or general welfare of the school.

Disciplinary Action

Principals may suspend and/or recommend expulsion of students who violate this policy based upon the facts of each case and in accordance with established disciplinary procedures. Students may also be referred to law enforcement authorities for investigation and/or prosecution. A student who violates this policy is also subject to all principal-approved sanctions imposed by any coach, advisor, teacher or other person supervising any co-curricular activity in which the student may participate. Students may also be subject to additional policies and rules imposed under any separate agreement signed by them in connection with their participation in co-curricular activities.

Prevention/Education

The District will provide students with appropriate information and activities focused on educating students about drugs, alcohol and inhalants and preventing their use. Programs shall teach students that the use of drugs, alcohol and inhalants is wrong and harmful; how to resist peer pressure; and address the legal, social and health consequences of substance abuse.

Intervention

The District will establish a team approach to intervention with students with substance abuse problems. Students will be assisted in addressing their substance abuse problems and in continuing their educational program. Students will be provided with information and referral, if necessary, to aid them in obtaining assistance from appropriate community organizations. Student records concerning such intervention shall be kept confidential as required by state and federal laws.

Policy Communication

The District shall distribute this policy and appropriate related information to staff, students and parents on an annual basis through handbooks and/or other means selected by the Superintendent and building administrators.

Legal Reference: **21 USC § 812 (Controlled Substances)**
 21 CFR Part 1300.11-15
 Pub.L.No. 101-226 (Drug Free Schools and Communities Act
 Amendments of 1989)
 17-A MRSA §1101
 42 USC §290dd-2
 42 CFR §2.1 et seq.
 20-A MRSA § 1001(9); 4008

Cross Reference: **GBEC Drug -Free Workplace**
 JICIA Weapons, Violence, Theft and School Safety
 JKD Suspension of Students
 JKE Expulsion of Students
 JLCD Administering Medicines to Students
 JRA Student Records

Revised and Renamed: **May 15, 2000 (was JFCI, JFCI-RI and JFCI-R2)**