

DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE

The Board of Education is committed to the prevention of alcohol and other substance use/abuse. 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-alikes, and any of those substances commonly referred to as "designer drugs." 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 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. The Board charges the Superintendent to collaborate with district staff, parents, students, community members, organizations and agencies, including alcohol and other substance abuse service providers, in developing the curriculum necessary to implement this policy.

Any staff member observing narcotics possession or usage by students on school grounds or during school-sponsored or supervised events shall report the incident immediately to the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall then take immediate action. Any narcotics found shall be confiscated immediately, followed by notification of the parent(s) or guardian 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/or other substance use/abuse is preventable and treatable.
- Alcohol and/or 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 collaborative, coordinated efforts with parents, students, staff, and the community as a whole.

The Superintendent will be responsible for providing the Board with an annual review of this policy, the programs and strategies implementing it, and his/her recommendations for revisions to this policy.

Ref: Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act, 20 USC §§3171 et seq.
Drug-Free Schools and Campuses, 34 CFR Part 86
Public Law 101-226
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., 105 S.Ct. 733 (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)

ADOPTED: 12/13/93

DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE REGULATION*Primary Prevention*

The intent of primary prevention programming is to prevent or delay the onset of alcohol and other substance use by students. The components of this programming shall include:

1. A sequential K-12 prevention curriculum that provides for:
 - Accurate and age-appropriate information about alcohol and other substances, including the physical, psychological and social consequences for their use/abuse.
 - Information about the relationship of alcohol and other substance use/abuse to other health-compromising behaviors or illnesses such as HIV and AIDS, teenage pregnancy, eating disorders, child abuse, suicide, and dropping out of school.
 - Helping students develop appropriate life skills to resist the use of alcohol and other substances and to promote healthy life styles.
 - Helping students identify personal risk factors for alcohol and other substance use/abuse and the steps needed for risk reduction.
 - Helping students develop a positive self-concept.
 - Helping students identify when they are under stress and how to manage or reduce such stress through non-chemical means.
2. Training school staff, parents and guardians to use the information and skills necessary to reinforce the components of this policy and regulation in the home, school and community.
3. Community education about the issues of alcohol and other substance use/abuse as a basis for providing a consistent message to district youth.
4. Positive alternatives to alcohol and other substance use/abuse, such as peer leadership programs, service projects, and recreational and extracurricular activities. Such activities will be planned collaboratively with students, school staff, parent(s) or guardian(s), community members, and agencies.

Intervention

The intent of intervention programming is to eliminate any existing use/abuse of alcohol and other substances, and to identify and provide supportive services to kindergarten through 12th grade students at high risk for such use/abuse. The components of such programming shall include:

1. providing alcohol and other substance use/abuse assessment and counseling services for students;
2. developing a referral process between district schools and community providers;
3. identifying and referring students to appropriate agencies when their use/abuse of alcohol and/or other substance requires counseling and/or treatment;

4. providing services to students in or returning from treatment to ensure that the school environment supports the process of recovery initiated in the treatment program;
5. providing individual, group, and family counseling targeted at students at high risk for alcohol and/or other substances use/abuse;
6. educating parent(s) or guardian(s) on when and how to access the district's intervention services; and
7. ensuring confidentiality as required by federal and state law.

Responsibility

Action

Staff Member	Notifies the Building Principal if he/she suspects a student of being under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
Building Principal	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Notifies the School Nurse, if necessary. 2. Makes provisions for student's health and safety.
School Nurse	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conducts diagnostic procedures. 2. Notifies Principal of the results of the diagnostic procedures.
Building Principal	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Contacts parents/guardians if drug or alcohol usage is confirmed or strongly suspected. 2. Determines if notification to all staff members associated with the student is required that alcohol or drug use is confirmed or strongly suspected. 3. May notify police department and give them any confiscated drugs, alcohol and accompanying paraphernalia where deemed appropriate.

Disciplinary Measures

Disciplinary measures for students found to have used or to be using, in possession of, or distributing alcohol and/or other substances, and for students possessing drug paraphernalia are outlined in the district's policies on Penalties and Student Rights and Responsibilities. Similar disciplinary measures for district staff are addressed in, among other statutes, Education Law Sections 1711(5)(e), 2508(5), 3020-a, 3031 and 913.

Students who are disciplined for any of these infractions will be mandated to participate in the intervention services established by Board policy. Where the requirements of Drug-Free Workplace legislation apply and in other situations deemed appropriate by the Superintendent, district staff will be referred to the Employee Assistance Program.

Staff Development

The Board recognizes that if the administrative, instructional, and non-instructional staff are to be responsible for understanding, implementing and modeling the district's policy and regulation on student Drug and Alcohol Abuse, they must be trained about the components of an effective alcohol and other substance prevention program. Staff training will be an ongoing process including the following:

1. For all staff: (a) an understanding of why individuals use and abuse alcohol and other substances, (b) their role in implementing this policy, including how to identify students who exhibit high risk behaviors or who are using/abusing alcohol and other substances, and how to refer these students to the appropriate services established by this policy, (c) awareness of personal risk factors for alcohol and other substance use/abuse so that they may identify personal use/abuse problems and seek assistance, and (d) awareness of the special needs of students returning from treatment.

2. Additionally for teachers: the knowledge and skills necessary to implement the district's K-12 alcohol and other substance prevention curricula.

3. For intervention staff: appropriate staff training for those identified to carry out the intervention function to assure that their assessment of individual, group, and family counseling and referral skills support the needs of high risk, using and abusing youth.

Implementing, Dissemination, and Monitoring

The Superintendent is responsible for providing the Board with an annual review of this policy and regulation, the programs and strategies implementing it, and his or her recommendations for revisions.

DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE EXHIBIT

NOTICE TO STUDENTS AND PARENTS

Standards of Conduct Regarding Illicit Drugs and Alcohol

The following notice is hereby given to students and parents in accordance with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989, Public Law 101-226. Compliance with the Standards of Conduct contained in this notice is mandatory.

Statement to Students

The unlawful possession, use, distribution or sale of illicit drugs and the unlawful possession, use, distribution or sale of alcohol is wrong and harmful.

Standards of Conduct

The unlawful possession, use, distribution or sale of illicit drugs and the possession, use, distribution or sale of alcohol by students on school premises or as a part of any of the activities of the school is prohibited.

Disciplinary Sanctions

The range of penalties which may be imposed for a violation of the Standards of Conduct is as follows:

Verbal warning; written warning; written notification to parent; counseling; probation; reprimand; detention; suspension from transportation; suspension from athletic participation; suspension from social or extracurricular activities; suspension of other privileges; exclusion from a particular class; in-school suspension; involuntary transfer; suspension; as well as referral for prosecution.

The type and extent of punishment shall be determined by the Building Principal or Superintendent of Schools. Such disciplinary measures shall be appropriate to the seriousness of the offense and, where applicable, to the previous disciplinary record of the student. Any suspension from attendance upon instruction may be imposed only in accordance with Education Law §3214(3).

Drug and Alcohol Counseling, Rehabilitation and Re-Entry Programs

The following drug and alcohol counseling, rehabilitation and re-entry programs are available to students:

New Directions: An outpatient treatment program. Counseling available to anyone who is facing difficulties due to their involvement with drugs or recognized potential for drug abuse.

Program for Alcoholism Recovery (PAR): An alcoholism clinic. Counseling available for all alcohol-related problems.