

DRUG AND ALCOHOL USE BY STUDENTS

The School Board is concerned with the health, welfare, and safety of its students thus provides students with an environment that is free of the problems associated with alcohol and drug abuse. Therefore, the use, sale, transfer, distribution, possession or being under the influence of unauthorized prescription drugs, alcohol, narcotics, unauthorized inhalants, controlled substances, illegal drugs is prohibited on any school district property, in any district-owned vehicle, or in any other district-approved vehicle used to transport students to and from school or district activities. This prohibition also applies to any district-sponsored or district-approved activity, event or function. The use, sale, transfer or possession of drug-related paraphernalia is also prohibited.

For the purpose of this policy, a controlled substance shall include any controlled substance as defined in the Controlled Substances Act, 21 U.S.C. §812 (c), or RSA 318-B, Controlled Drug Act.

Prescription and non-prescription drugs which a student has on prescription or through written parent authorization and are carried onto school property must be kept in the nurse's office along with a copy of the prescription. The drug must be taken in the nurse's office as well. The distribution and/or sale of prescription and/or non-prescription drugs to others is strictly forbidden; suspension and counseling will result. Other action may also be taken.

Any student who is found by the administration to be in violation of this policy shall be referred for counseling sessions, rehabilitation programs, and subject to disciplinary action up to and including suspension, expulsion or other discipline in accordance with the district's disciplinary policy. Strict compliance is mandatory. The school principal shall immediately report all incidents involving a controlled substance to the appropriate local law enforcement agency and the Superintendent. All controlled substances shall be turned over to local law enforcement.

When a student is suspected of being under the influence of illegal substance he/she will be brought to the nurse's office for assessment. This assessment may include taking vital signs and part or all of a screening measure. A student who fails to comply with the assessment requirement will be turned over to the local law enforcement. Parents/legal guardians will be notified of the results of any assessment. Recommendations may include further assessment, testing, or treatment before the student returns to school.

Students who enter into residential treatment will be encouraged to remain enrolled in school. The school district is not financially responsible for a student's education while he/she is in treatment. The school guidance counselor will facilitate an educational plan upon written parental release of information. Release of information will also be encouraged between the facility and school to discuss aftercare plans and to support the student's recovery.

Students with disabilities who violate this policy will be disciplined in accordance with the student's Individual Education Program (IEP).

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