

Substance Abuse

For this procedure, prohibited substances include alcohol and controlled, illegal, mood altering, or harmful substances or facsimiles thereof and drug paraphernalia.

Actions taken by staff in dealing with student possession and use of prohibited substances will have as their first concern the welfare of the student involved and the other students in the school. Although a helping relationship rather than an investigative and punitive approach will be emphasized, necessary and appropriate disciplinary action shall be taken when laws or school regulations are violated. Law enforcement agencies shall be called upon for investigative and consultative assistance when illegal drug or alcohol activity has occurred.

Prevention

Prevention programs shall focus on classroom instruction, guidance services and the school climate.

Instruction

Prevention programs shall focus on:

- A. The effects of substances such as alcohol, drugs and nicotine upon the body.
- B. Skill development related to self esteem, goal-setting, decision-making, conflict management, problem-solving, refusal skills and communication.

Guidance Services

Staff meets with students, individually and in small groups, to supplement prevention programs. Staff assists parents to maximize the prevention efforts of the school.

School Climate

The schools shall strive to provide an environment to help students achieve in a productive manner (academically, socially and emotionally).

Intervention

The goal of intervention programs shall be to eliminate use of prohibited substances by students.

Corrective Action

If a student appears at school or at a school-sponsored function demonstrating behavior which indicates that he/she may be under the influence of a prohibited substance and/or admits to a staff member that he/she is under the influence of a prohibited substance, the school administrator shall be notified and the following action shall be taken:

- A. Parents will be notified.
- B. If the student's illegal use of prohibited substance is confirmed, the school administration may request the assistance of a law enforcement official in investigating the source of the prohibited substance.
- C. Appropriate school disciplinary action will be taken using the following guidelines.

Administrative corrective action plan shall include a conference with parent/guardian and may include, but shall not be limited to, one or all of the following: valid assessment by a certified drug-alcohol counselor; compliance with recommendations of the assessment; law enforcement notification; and suspensions and/or expulsion.

Use or possession of prohibited substances

1. First Offense:

Elementary School Administrative corrective action plan

* Middle School long-term suspension

* Senior High School long-term suspension

* A corrective action plan with the administrator will result in all but ten (10) days of the suspension being held in abeyance until the student successfully completes a valid assessment and is in compliance with the recommendations of the assessment.

2. Second Offense:

Elementary School Administrative corrective action plan

** Middle School long-term suspension

** Senior High School long-term suspension

** A corrective action plan with the administrator will result in all but fifteen (15) days of the suspension being held in abeyance until the student successfully completes a valid assessment and is in compliance with the recommendations of the assessment.

3. Third Offense:

Elementary School Administrative corrective action plan

Middle School expulsion

Senior High School expulsion

Sale or delivery of prohibited substances

1. First Offense:

Elementary School Administrative corrective action plan

Middle School long-term suspension or expulsion

Senior High School long-term suspension or expulsion

2. Second Offense:

Elementary School Administrative corrective action plan

Middle School expulsion

Senior High School expulsion

If school authorities find a student in possession of a prohibited substance at school, the substance will be confiscated and turned over to law enforcement officials for investigation and disposal. Appropriate school disciplinary action will be taken by a school administrator regardless of law enforcement action.

If a school administrator receives information involving students in the sale and/or use of a prohibited substance outside of school, the information will be reported to law enforcement officials for their investigation.

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