

## **SUBJECT: ALCOHOL, DRUGS AND OTHER SUBSTANCES (STUDENTS)**

The Board of Education recognizes that the misuse of drugs and/or alcohol is a serious problem with legal, physical, emotional and social implications for the entire community. Therefore, the consumption, sharing and/or selling, use and/or possession of illicit substances, including alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, counterfeit and designer drugs, or paraphernalia for the use of such drugs is prohibited at any school-sponsored event or on school property at all times. The inappropriate use of prescription and over-the-counter drugs is also prohibited. Persons exhibiting behavioral or physical characteristics indicative of the effects of having consumed alcohol, illegal drugs, or other illicit substances shall be banned from entering school grounds or school-sponsored events.

Student involvement with illicit substances, including inappropriate involvement with prescription or over-the-counter drugs, is unacceptable and intolerable in a school context. Therefore, the Board directs the Superintendent and his administrative staff to apply firm disciplinary consequences to any student who comes to school or to a school activity under the influence such substances, or in possession of them or of paraphernalia for their use.

The Board further directs the Superintendent to establish regulations that combine disciplinary consequences with opportunities and incentives for rehabilitation. Accordingly, disciplinary consequences, such as length of suspensions, may vary with the student's commitment and adherence to a prescribed program of rehabilitation. However, the Board expects that the clarity of its stance against illicit substances will be maintained in all cases.

In addition, the Board directs the Superintendent to provide a program addressing the use and abuse of alcohol, drugs, and other substances with the goal of preventing or delaying student involvement, and of supporting rehabilitation for students who do become involved. The program will be consistent with the guidelines of the Drug Free Schools Act and will include dimensions of prevention, intervention and rehabilitation. Components of the program will include K-12 curriculum, staff training, counseling, co-curricular policies and activities, discipline, the use of outside agencies, and communication with students, parents, and community. The Superintendent will also provide for regular monitoring, evaluation, and where appropriate, modification of the program.

The Board recognizes that the issues of drug and alcohol use affect the entire community, not just the schools. Therefore, as appropriate, aspects of the program will be developed and carried out in collaboration with staff, students, parents/guardians, and community agencies.

Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act  
Amendment of 1989  
(Public Law 101-226)

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