

Drug and Alcohol Use By Students

The responsibility for student drug and alcohol use prevention and intervention programs is a shared one.

The administration has overall responsibility for developing and proposing possible student drug and alcohol use prevention and intervention programs to the Board of Education and implementing them, once approved, through the appointment of a drug and alcohol use prevention and intervention program director. Included in this overall responsibility is the dissemination of pertinent information concerning student drug and alcohol use prevention and intervention programs to students, employees and the community.

The Board of Education is responsible for reviewing the administration's proposed student drug and alcohol use prevention and intervention programs, approving them, authorizing funding for them, and reviewing results on a periodic basis.

The parents and the community are responsible for learning about school drug and alcohol use prevention and intervention programs and cooperating in the implementation of these programs.

Students in the district are responsible for cooperating in the implementation of the school-provided drug and alcohol use prevention programs, learning from them, and participating actively in their various components.

The district's student drug and alcohol use prevention and intervention programs shall include, as a minimum, the following components:

A program director shall be appointed to facilitate student drug and alcohol use prevention and intervention program development and implementation at the district level.

Each school shall appoint a person to facilitate its student drug and alcohol use prevention and intervention programs under the direction of the school principal or designee and in cooperation with the district program director or his/her designee.

The district shall provide awareness of training sessions within and outside the district for all district personnel to educate them regarding prevention of student drug and alcohol use, the problems students may have as a result of their own drug and alcohol use as well as the drug and alcohol abuse in their families, households, and schools.

Curriculum stressing education on the prevention of student drug and alcohol use shall be continued or instituted at all grade levels. The curriculum shall be reviewed and modified, as needed, on a regular basis. Modifications to existing

school education programs should be made to include the strands of knowledge and strategies of teaching which accent preventive drug and alcohol use education at all grade levels (P/K - 12).

In accordance with policy JICH, the following procedures are established for disciplining students for drug and alcohol-related misconduct.

Use

1. When a student is suspected of using drugs or alcohol on school property, in a school vehicle or at any school-sponsored or sanctioned activity, or otherwise at any time or place when such conduct interferes with or disrupts school operations or compromises the safety or welfare of students and/or district employees, the staff member having the suspicion shall immediately notify the principal or principal's designee. Such notification must include the reason(s) for the suspicion (observed use, unusual behavior, information from another student, etc.). The principal or designee shall conduct a check of the suspected student and collect information in compliance with district policy and regulations governing interrogations and searches.
 - a. If the information collected is not sufficient to warrant further action, the principal or designee may nevertheless have a personal conference with the student to express awareness and concern.
 - b. If warranted by the information collected, the student's parent/guardian will be requested to attend a conference at school. The conference may include sharing the information collected, explaining the consequences of student involvement with drugs and alcohol, developing a remedial plan of action, and offering the parent/guardian general information and resources related to student drug and alcohol use.
2. When necessary, emergency health and safety care shall be provided to the affected student, and any procedural or disciplinary issues shall be postponed until the student's immediate needs are treated. While waiting for the parent/guardian or further medical aid, the student shall not be left alone and shall be placed in a quiet situation under the observation of a school employee.

Possession

Students who possess alcohol, drugs or drug-containing paraphernalia in violation of district policy and/or regulations will be handled in the following manner:

1. Any staff member who discovers evidence concerning a drug or alcohol policy violation shall immediately notify the principal or principal's designee.
2. Any staff member who has reasonable cause to suspect that a student possesses alcohol, drugs or drug-containing paraphernalia in violation of district policy and/or regulations shall request that the student accompany him/her to the principal or principal's designee. If the student refuses, the staff member shall immediately notify the principal or designee.
3. The principal or designee shall attempt to obtain evidence by requesting it directly from the student or through search procedures as outlined in district policy and regulations.
4. The principal or designee shall place any evidence in an envelope or other container which must then be sealed, dated and initialed by the individual who originally obtained the evidence and by the principal or designee, and then placed in the school safe.
5. The principal or designee shall call appropriate law enforcement officials in each instance of possession or sale of controlled substances by a student. A mutual decision will be made as to retention of contraband by the school or testing by the authorities.
6. When there is evidence of a student possessing illegal drugs, the student will be suspended and the student's parent/guardian will be notified.

First Offense for Use and/or Possession

1. The student will receive a three-day out-of-school suspension, and a conference with the student's parent/guardian will be scheduled prior to readmittance.
2. Appropriate law enforcement officials will be notified.
3. The student and student's parent/guardian will be provided information concerning voluntary drug and alcohol treatment programs.
4. The student may elect to participate in a voluntary drug and alcohol treatment program with attendance verification submitted to the school administration. If this option is chosen, the student will be readmitted. If this option is not chosen, the student may be suspended from school for an additional five days by the superintendent or his/her designee. The student and student's parent/guardian must attend a readmission conference before the student is readmitted at the end of the five-day suspension.

5. The principal or designee will attempt to develop with the parent/guardian and the student a procedure that will outline the responsibilities of the parent/guardian, the student and the school in an effort to keep any further drug and alcohol policy violations from occurring.

Second Offense For Use and/or Possession

1. The student will be suspended from school for five days.
2. Appropriate law enforcement officials will be notified.
3. The student and student's parent/guardian will be provided information concerning voluntary drug and alcohol treatment programs.
4. The student may be recommended for expulsion.

Third Offense For Use and/or Possession

The student will be recommended for expulsion.

Sale or Distribution

Students who sell, give or exchange alcohol, drugs or drug-containing paraphernalia in violation of district policy or regulations will be handled in the following manner:

1. If a staff member witnesses an act in which alcohol, drugs or drug-containing paraphernalia are being transferred from one student to another, the staff member will immediately attempt to detain the students and request that they accompany the staff member to the principal or principal's designee. If any of the students refuse, the staff member will immediately notify the principal or designee.
2. The principal or designee will attempt to obtain evidence by requesting it directly from the students or through search procedures in accordance with district policy and regulations.
3. Any student who distributes, trades, exchanges or sells controlled substances will be suspended and recommended for expulsion.

Academic credit may be granted to a student who completes a treatment program for substance abuse, provided that the program meets required standards and procedures established by the district and the State.

The district will provide support groups in each school building for students who are affected by drug and alcohol use to the extent group facilitators are available.

These regulations will supplement and complement authority otherwise conferred by district policy and regulations, and will not be deemed to limit or suspend such other authority.

Approval: January 21, 1992

Revised: May 2000

CROSS REFS.: JFG, Interrogations and Searches
JKD/JKE, Student Suspension and Expulsion
JLCD, Administering Medicines to Students