NON-SCHOOL RELATED DRUG AND ALCOHOL VIOLATIONS

Background

The Mt. Lebanon School District recognizes the value of interscholastic athletics and extracurricular activities as an integral part of the total school experience for all students and as a conduit for community involvement. The District believes that high standards of conduct and citizenship are essential for students and considers participation in extracurricular/interscholastic activities, which include but are not limited to interscholastic, club and intramural athletics, student organizations, attendance at school functions such as sporting events, dances, musical and theatrical performances, activities office, and participation in commencement ceremonies ("School Activities") to be a privilege and not a right. The District recognizes the importance of students making healthy and safe choices, when in a position to make a decision about risky social behaviors. The Mt. Lebanon School District has the right to adopt and enforce reasonable rules and regulations regarding participation in extracurricular/interscholastic activities.

Objective

It is the objective of this policy to establish fair, reasonable and nondiscriminatory rules and regulations regarding off-campus, non-school related conduct for all students and provide the student and his/her parent/guardian with notice that such off-campus, non-school related conduct will be subject to discipline by the District in the form of restrictions from School Activities.

Policy

Students will be restricted from School Activities for a prescribed period of time for any of the following conduct that is confirmed to have occurred off-campus at a non-school related function: Use, possession, sale, distribution, or procurement of any amount of alcohol, drugs, other controlled substances (other than legally prescribed medications) or drug paraphernalia or being under the influence of alcohol, drugs or other controlled substances (other than legally prescribed medications). Confirmation of such conduct may originate through information lawfully received by the District from law enforcement or judicial sources, such as notice of the issuance of a citation, through the student's own admission, or the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) through acknowledgment. This policy is applicable to <u>all</u> School Activities.

This policy is in addition to, and not in lieu of, any District policies, codes of conduct, student handbooks, or other rules concerning discipline and restriction from School Activities for drug and alcohol offenses occurring on District property or at school related events. This policy shall not apply to religious events or ceremonies or circumstances where the student's use, possession or consumption of alcohol or drugs is not in violation of the law.

First Offense

- 1. Use, possession, sale, distribution, or procurement of any amount of alcohol, drugs, other controlled substances (other than legally prescribed medications) or drug paraphernalia or being under the influence of alcohol, drugs or other controlled substances (other than legally prescribed medications) by a student off-campus at a non-school related function results in a restriction from School Activities for 30 calendar days.
- 2. For first offenses only under this policy, the student will be able to resume School Activities after the student undergoes a drug and alcohol evaluation by a credentialed drug and alcohol counselor, a Certified Addictions Counselor or an appropriate medical professional, which shall not be at the District's expense and;
 - a. Upon written confirmation that the drug and alcohol evaluation was completed and satisfactory evidence is provided that the student has complied/will comply with all recommendations contained within the evaluation; and,
 - b. Satisfactory evidence from credentialed drug and alcohol counselor, a Certified Addictions Counselor, or an appropriate medical professional must indicate that the student has complied with and/or made arrangements to comply with all treatment recommendations resulting from the assessment (i.e., counseling sessions, inpatient treatment, etc.).
- 3. Prior to rescinding the restriction from School Activities, the student will also need to complete a minimum 3 hour community service project as determined by the coach/club sponsor (if applicable) and the Principal, or his/her designee.

Second Offense

1. A second offense relating to the use, possession, sale, distribution, or procurement of any amount of alcohol, drugs, other controlled substances (other than legally prescribed medications) or drug paraphernalia or being under the influence of alcohol, drugs or other controlled substances (other than legally prescribed medications) by a student off-campus at a non-school related function results in a restriction from School Activities for 30 calendar days.

Subsequent Offenses

1. A third or subsequent offense relating to the use, possession, sale, distribution, or procurement of any amount of alcohol, drugs, other controlled substances (other than legally prescribed medications) or drug paraphernalia or being under the influence of alcohol, drugs or other controlled substances (other than legally prescribed medications) by a student off-campus at a non-school related function results in a restriction from school activities for 60 calendar days excluding summer break.

Procedures

- 1. Timely, factual communication between the sponsors (where applicable) and school administration is critical. If a coach, club sponsor, activities/athletic director, or administrator is informed of a drug and/or alcohol offense, he/she will inform the Principal, or his/her designee. If the information is provided to the Principal or his/her designee, the administrator will inform other involved parties (unit principal, athletic/activities director, coach, club sponsor).
- 2. The Principal or his/her designee will schedule a meeting with the parent(s)/guardian(s) and student to discuss the consequence(s) as it relates to the offense and afford the appropriate due process as reasonable determined by the Principal or his/her designee.

Administration Responsibilities

It shall be the responsibility of the Administration to communicate and enforce the policy as prescribed.

<u>Communication</u> This policy shall be communicated to:

- 1. All Mt. Lebanon School District Parents and Students
- 2. All District Staff

Adopted March 15, 2010 Revised September 19, 2011 Reviewed February 11, 2013 Revised February 22, 2016 Revised November 21, 2016