

## **580 Little Falls Mood-Altering Chemical Policy for Students Participating in Minnesota State High School League Activities**

### **I. Philosophy and Purpose:**

The Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL) and ISD #482 recognize the use of mood-altering chemicals as a significant health problem for many adolescents, the use of which has negative effects on behavior, learning, and the total development of the individual. The misuse and abuse of mood-altering chemicals for some adolescents affect co-curricular participation and development of related skills. Others, such as family and team members are also affected by the misuse and abuse of mood-altering chemicals.

### **II. General Statement of Policy: *During the calendar year, regardless of the quantity, a student shall not:***

- a. Use or consume, or have in possession, a beverage containing alcohol;
- b. Use or consume, or have in possession, tobacco;
- c. Use or consume, have in possession, buy, sell, or give away any other controlled substance or drug paraphernalia.
- d. Use or consume, have in possession, buy, sell, or give away products containing or products used to deliver nicotine, tobacco products and other chemicals.  
“Tobacco products” means: any product containing, made, or derived from tobacco that is intended for human consumption, whether chewed, smoked, absorbed, dissolved, inhaled, snorted, sniffed, or ingested by any other means, or any component, part or accessory of a tobacco product.
- e. Use or consume, have in possession, buy, sell or give away any substance or product where the intent of such use of the substance or product is to induce intoxication, excitement, or stupefaction of the central nervous system, except under the direction and supervision of a medical doctor. Such substances or products shall include, but are not limited to, synthetic drugs, gasoline, glue, aerosol devices, bath salts, and any substances addressed by Minnesota or Federal Law.
  - i. The bylaw applies to the 12-month calendar year.
  - ii. It is not a violation for a student to be in possession of a controlled substance specifically prescribed by a licensed medical professional for the student’s own use.

### **III. Penalty:**

#### **2. Penalties for Category I Activities (Athletics, Fine Arts, Speech, One-Act Play):**

- a. **First Violation:** After confirmation of the first violation, the student shall lose eligibility for the next three (3) weeks of a season, 21 calendar days, 2 contests minimum, in which the student is a participant. No exception is permitted for a student who becomes a participant in a treatment program.

- b. **Second Violation:** After confirmation of the second violation, the student shall lose eligibility for the next seven (7) weeks of a season, 49 calendar days, 6 contests minimum, in which the student is a participant. No exception is permitted for a student who becomes a participant in a treatment program.
- c. **Third and Subsequent Violation:** After confirmation of the third or subsequent violations, the student shall lose eligibility for the next twenty one (21) weeks of a season, 147 calendar days (minimum of 12 contests), in which the student is a participant. If after the third or subsequent violations, the student has been assessed to be chemically dependent and the student on her/his own volition becomes a participant in a chemical dependency program or treatment program, then the student may be certified for reinstatement in MSHSL activities after a period of six (6) weeks. The director or a counselor of a reputable chemical dependency treatment facility must issue such certification.
- d. **Accumulative Penalties:** Penalties shall be accumulative beginning with the student's first participation in a MSHSL activity and continuing through the student's high school career.
- e. **Denial Disqualification:** A student shall be disqualified from all inter-scholastic athletics and activities for nine (9) additional weeks beyond the student's original period of ineligibility when the student denies violation of the rule, is allowed to participate and then is subsequently found guilty of the violation.

3. Penalties for Category II Activities (Band, Choir, and Visual Arts):

- f. First Violation: After confirmation of the first violation, the student shall lose eligibility for the following events:
  - i. The next major event on the Fine Arts calendar.
  - ii. The next optional field trip for the current school year.
  - iii. Lose any leadership position for the remainder of the school year.
- g. Second and Subsequent Violations: After confirmation of the second violation, the student shall lose eligibility for the following events:
  - i. The next two major events on the Fine Arts calendar.
  - ii. The next two optional field trips for the current school year.
  - iii. Lose any leadership position for the remainder of the school year.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. §§ 181.950-181.957 (Drug and Alcohol Testing in the Workplace)  
 49 U.S.C. § 31306 (Omnibus Transportation Employee Testing Act of 1991)  
 49 C.F.R. Part 382 (Department of Transportation rules implementing Omnibus Transportation Employee Testing Act of 1991)

Cross-References: ISD 482 Policy 416 Drug and Alcohol Testing  
 ISD 482 Policy 417 Chemical use/ abuse  
 ISD 482 Policy 418 Drug Free Workplace  
 ISD 482 Policy 419 Tobacco Free Workplace  
 MSBA Model Policy 417 (Chemical Use/Abuse)  
 MSBA Model Policy 418 (Drug-Free Workplace/Drug-Free Schools)