Unauthorized or illegal drugs and alcohol are a threat to safe and orderly schools and will not be tolerated. The superintendent is responsible for ensuring that this policy is consistently applied throughout the school system.

This policy applies to students while on school property or at a school-sponsored event or activity (whether on or off school property) and at any other time or place where the conduct is reasonably expected to have a direct and immediate impact on the orderly and efficient operation of the schools or the safety of individuals in the school environment.

A. PROHIBITED BEHAVIOR

1. Students are prohibited from possessing, using, selling, delivering, manufacturing, or being under the influence of any of the following substances:

    a. narcotic drugs;

    b. hallucinogenic drugs;

    c. amphetamines;

    d. barbiturates;

    e. marijuana;

    f. synthetic stimulants, such as MDPV and mephedrone (e.g., "bath salts"), and synthetic cannabinoids (e.g., "Spice," "K2");

    g. any other controlled substance;

    h. any alcoholic beverage, malt beverage, fortified or unfortified wine or other intoxicating liquor;

    i. any chemicals, substances or products procured or used with the intention of bringing about a state of exhilaration or euphoria or of otherwise altering the student's mood or behavior; or

    j. any substance containing cannabidiol (CBD) or tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), regardless of whether it constitutes a controlled substance under state or federal law.

2. Students also are prohibited from possessing, using, selling, delivering, or manufacturing counterfeit (fake) drugs.

3. Students are prohibited from possessing, using, selling, delivering, or manufacturing drug paraphernalia, including but not limited to rolling papers, roach clips, lighters, matches, vaping devices, vape liquid containers, pipes, syringes, and other delivery devices for prohibited substances.

4. Students are prohibited from possessing, using, selling, delivering, or sharing prescription or over-the-counter drugs, except in accordance with policy 6125, Administering Medicines to Students. A student who possesses or uses a prescription or over-the-counter drug in accordance with policy 6125 does not violate this policy.

5. A student is not in violation of this policy for being under the influence of a prohibited substance following its proper use as a medication lawfully prescribed for the student by a licensed health care practitioner.

6. Students may not participate in any way in the selling or delivering of prohibited substances, regardless of whether the sale or delivery ultimately occurs on school property.

7. The principal may authorize lawful uses of substances that are otherwise prohibited by this policy for legitimate curriculum-related purposes, such as for the use of matches or lighters in approved chemistry or other school projects.

B. CONSEQUENCES

As required by policy 4335, Criminal Behavior, the principal must report to the appropriate law enforcement agency any student who has used or possessed a controlled substance in violation of law while on school property.

The disciplinary consequences for violations of this policy will be consistent with Section D of policy 4300, Student Behavior Policies. The superintendent or designee shall list in the Code of Student Conduct the specific range of consequences that may be imposed on a student for violations of this policy.

Legal References: G.S. 18B-301; 20-11(n1); ch. 90 art. 5 and art. 5B; 115C-47, -276, -288, -307, -390.2, -407

Cross References: Student Behavior Policies (policy 4300), Criminal Behavior (policy 4335), Administering Medicines to Students (policy 6125)

Adopted: April 13, 2015

Replaces: Policy 5.07.50, Substance Abuse

Revised: November 9, 2020