

Policy Statement #1540 (Administration) of the Board of Education Regarding the Prohibition of Drugs, Alcohol, and Cannabis on Calvert County Public Schools Property

I. Purpose

- A. To ensure a school environment free of illicit drugs, cannabis, and alcohol that is healthy, safe, and conducive to learning and working
- B. To prevent the entry of alcohol, cannabis, and other drugs onto Calvert County Public Schools property

II. Definitions

- A. Alcohol - Alcoholic beverages including, but not limited to: alcohol, brandy, whiskey, rum, gin, cordial, beer, ale, foster, stout, wine, cider and any other spirituous, vinous malt or fermented liquor, liquor or compound, by whatever name called, containing one-half of one percent or more of alcohol by volume.
- B. Cannabis – Cannabis is a plant with many names commonly referred to as marijuana, also known as weed, pot, or hash that can have psychoactive characteristics and is consumed for medical and non-medical (recreational) purposes.
- C. Counterfeit Drug - A substance that has been made to look like a substance that is legally sold or to resemble some other manufacturer's product
- D. Drug - A substance recognized in the official U.S. Pharmacopoeia, National Formulary, or any supplement to them; substances intended for use in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment or prevention of disease in man or animals; and substances (other than food) intended to affect the structure of any function of the body of man or other animals.
- E. Drug dependence/Drug addiction - The compulsive use of drugs, to the point where the user has no effective choice but to continue its use.
- F. Drug Paraphernalia - All equipment, products and materials of any kind which are used, intended for use or designed for use in planting, propagating, cultivating, growing, harvesting, manufacturing, compounding, converting, producing, progressing, preparing, testing, analyzing, packaging, repackaging, storing, containing, concealing, injecting, ingesting, inhaling or otherwise introducing into the human body a controlled dangerous substance. It includes but is not limited to:
 - 1. Scales used for weighing
 - 2. Testing equipment used for analyzing the strength and purity of the substance
 - 3. Capsules, balloons, envelopes, plastic bags (baggies) and other containers designed for use in packaging small quantities of controlled dangerous substances or counterfeit drugs

4. Hypodermic syringes, needles and other objects used, intended for use in injecting controlled dangerous substances into the human body
 5. Objects used, intended for use or designed for use in ingesting, inhaling or otherwise introducing marijuana, cocaine, hashish, hashish oil, or other illicit substance into the human body
- G. Illicit – unlawful, not permitted
- H. Look-Alike Drug - A non-controlled substance which has been made to look like an illegal, controlled dangerous substance
- I. School property – Any Calvert County Public Schools building and/or grounds, and any CCPS leased or owned vehicles, including school buses when they are in use for official school business. This includes any location used for co- or extra-curricular activities, including any field trips.

III. Policy Statement

- A. The Board of Education is compelled to offer and maintain a safe, healthy, and positive learning and work environment for all individuals associated with Calvert County Public Schools. Therefore, the Board is committed to a drug- and alcohol-free school system. The sale, distribution, use, or possession of alcohol, cannabis, any illegal or illicit drug, and/or any drug paraphernalia is prohibited on school property. Being under the influence of illegal or illicit drugs, alcohol, and/or cannabis is prohibited on CCPS property at all times. In addition:
1. Instructional and awareness programs informing students and employees about the harmful effects of substance abuse will be provided;
 2. Students and employees with identified drug, alcohol, or cannabis dependence/addiction problems who seek help will be offered assistance;
 3. All school properties are required to be drug and alcohol and cannabis free;
 4. Students may not possess, use, distribute or sell counterfeit drugs, look-alike drugs, over-the-counter medication, or prescribed medications, except when possessed and used in accordance with Policy 3900 Regarding School Health Services.
 5. The use of alcohol or cannabis by a CCPS employee is strictly prohibited during the discharge of official duties at locations off school properties where students are present when that employee is responsible for the supervision of a student(s).
 6. All persons and organizations who are on school property or are permitted to use school facilities in accordance with CCPS Policy 8120 Regarding the Use of School Facilities must comply with this policy.

IV. Delegation of Authority

- A. The Superintendent is directed to develop three sets of administrative procedures which are in accordance with all local policies and local, state and federal laws and regulations and to communicate this policy and accompanying procedures to all

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Adopted: 4/10/08

Revised: 5/20/10; 5/9/13; 6/8/17; 7/15/21; 7/13/23

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relevant parties. One procedure will apply to employees, one to students, and one to community members.

V. Exceptions

- A. Exceptions to this policy may be made by the Superintendent or his/her designee in writing on a case-by-case basis for churches using school facilities in accordance with CCPS Policy 8120 Use of School Facilities.
- B. The Board, by majority vote, may temporarily suspend all or part of this policy. Suspension of all or part of this policy, however, in no way relieves the Board of its obligation to comply with the pertinent local, state and federal laws and regulations or the rules and regulations of the Maryland State Board of Education and the Maryland State Department of Education

VI. Review

- A. This policy will be reviewed at the end of four years, or sooner, if approved by majority vote of the Board of Education in public session.

VII. Effective Date

- A. This policy is effective July 13, 2023.

Citations

- State Law: § 4-124 of the Education Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland
§ 7-411 through 413 of the Education Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland
§5-627 of the Criminal Law Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland
§26-103 of the Education Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland
House Bill 556
Senate Bill 516
- State Reg.: COMAR 13A.08.01.08
- Federal Law: Public Law 101-226, Drug-Free School and Communities Act Amendments of 1989
21 U.S.C. 812
Drug Free Workplace Act of 1988
- Adm. Reg.:
- Neg. Agr.:
- Other Citation:

Related Policies

- 1112 Student Discipline
- 1520 Tobacco-Free Schools
- 1750 Employee Discipline
- 3610 Students' Rights and Responsibilities
- 3900 School Health Services
- 8120 Use of School Facilities

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