

Regulation 7320R

Students

ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, AND/OR OTHER SUBSTANCES

General

Pursuant to Board of Education Policy 7320, the consumption, sharing and/or selling, use and/or possession of alcohol, tobacco, electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes), and other substances (cannabis (marijuana), substances, counterfeit, and designer substances, over the counter substances, prescription substances, vitamins, supplements, herbs, and other similar substances), including paraphernalia for the use of such substances, is a serious problem with multiple implications. substances

Student involvement with the use, possession, sale, or sharing of alcohol, tobacco and/or other substances or associated paraphernalia is discouraged in general and is strictly prohibited on school grounds and at school functions. The following guidelines reflect the range of District responses to incidents and issues related to alcohol, tobacco and/or other substances. District policies and programs are aimed at prevention, intervention and support.

Disciplinary Consequences/Programs of Support

Pursuant to Board Policy 7320, firm disciplinary consequences will apply to any student who comes to school or to a school activity under the influence of alcohol, tobacco and/or other substances, or in possession of them or of paraphernalia for their use. Consequences will also apply to any student who attempts to sell, share, or otherwise distribute such substances.

Once a school official has determined that a student appears to be under the influence or in possession of alcohol, tobacco and/or other substances, or associated paraphernalia, the matter will be reported to building administration. Students arriving at a school activity who appear to be under the influence of alcohol, tobacco and/or other substances will be denied admission to the activity. In all cases, parents will be notified as soon as possible, and consequences will be applied.

For any alcohol and/or other substances related offenses, students will be subject to a short-term suspension (up to five (5) days), and to a Superintendent's hearing to consider long term suspension. Where an incident related to alcohol and/or other substances include the possibility of criminal activity, police will be notified as well.

Possession or Use

Irondequoit High School Students

Should an IHS student be found guilty of charges at a Superintendent's hearing, the period of suspension will be up to twenty (20) weeks for a first offense of possession or use.

At the discretion of the Superintendent, IHS students who commit to a prescribed program of support may have the period of suspension reduced, depending on when the program begins and on how well the student adheres to it. The Substance Abuse Counselor will monitor the support program, which will include the following components:

1. At least one (1) meeting per week with the Substance Abuse Counselor during the suspension and continue for twenty (20) weeks once return to school with the Substance Abuse Counselor and/or School Counselor.
2. Evaluation by an outside accredited drug/alcohol agency and involvement in an accredited agency-sponsored treatment program if any is prescribed. The student and his/her family are required to sign appropriate releases to afford the treatment agency the ability to report the results of the evaluation and treatment outcomes to the Substance Intervention Counselor.
3. A prescribed program of intervention that includes academic support, community service, and life skills training using the following guidelines:
 - a. No less than two (2) hours daily of academic support through a licensed tutor/teacher hired by the district.
 - b. Community Service consisting of no less than thirty-five (35) total hours during the period of suspension.
 - c. Mentoring possibilities using viable candidates as designated by school personnel.
4. Good school behavior within the intervention support period: attendance in classes and at tutoring; completion of homework; responsible behavior, etc.
5. At least one (1) random drug screen, spaced throughout the suspension, showing the student is drug-free prior to returning to school.
6. Participation in the Rochester City Drug Treatment Court or an education/prevention program.

* The Substance Abuse Counselor provides administration updates on student's program completion.

Dake Students

For Dake students found guilty of a first offense of possession or use, the period of suspension will be up to fifteen (15) weeks. Commitment and adherence to a program of support may reduce that suspension.

1. At least one (1) meeting per week with the Substance Abuse Counselor during the suspension and continue for fifteen (15) weeks with the Substance Abuse Counselor and/or School Counselor once return to school.
2. Evaluation by an outside accredited drug/alcohol agency and involvement in an accredited agency-sponsored treatment program if any is prescribed. The student and his/her family are required to sign appropriate releases to afford the treatment agency the ability to report the results of the evaluation and treatment outcomes to the Substance Intervention Counselor.
3. A prescribed program of intervention that includes academic support, community service, and life skills training using the following guidelines:
 - a. No less than two (2) hours daily of academic support through a licensed tutor/teacher hired by the district.

- b. Community Service consisting of no less than twenty-five (25) total hours during the period of suspension.
- c. Mentoring possibilities using viable candidates as designated by school personnel.
4. Good school behavior within the intervention support period: attendance in classes and at tutoring; completion of homework; responsible behavior, etc.
5. At least one (1) random drug screen, spaced throughout the suspension, showing the student is drug-free prior to returning to school.
6. Participation in the Rochester City Drug Treatment Court or an education/prevention program.

**The Substance Abuse Counselor provides administration updates on student's program completion.

Iroquois and Rogers Students

For Iroquois and Rogers students found guilty of a first offense of possession or use, the period of suspension will be up to ten (10) weeks. Commitment and adherence to a program of support may reduce that suspension.

At the discretion of the Superintendent, Iroquois and Rogers students who commit to a prescribed program of support may have the period of suspension reduced, depending on when the program begins and on how well the student adheres to it. The Substance Abuse Counselor will monitor the support program, which will include the following components:

1. At least one (1) meeting per week with the Substance Abuse Counselor and/or School Counselor during the suspension and continue for ten (10) weeks once return to school.
2. Consultation with medical provider to determine possible outside supports.
3. A prescribed program of intervention that includes academic support, community service, and life skills training using the following guidelines:
 - a. No less than two (2) hours daily of academic support through a licensed tutor/teacher hired by the district.
 - b. Successful completion of a community service project.
 - c. Mentoring possibilities using viable candidates as designated by school personnel.
4. Good school behavior within the intervention support period: attendance in classes and at tutoring; completion of homework; responsible behavior, etc.

**The Substance Abuse Counselor provides administration updates on student's program completion.

All Students

Sale or Distribution

Students found guilty for the sale or distribution of alcohol and/or other substances will be suspended for up to forty (40) weeks. Commitment and adherence to a program of support may reduce that suspension.

At the discretion of the Superintendent, students who commit to a prescribed program of support may have the period of suspension reduced, depending on when the program begins and on how well the student adheres to it. The Substance Abuse Counselor will monitor the support program, which will include the components outlined previously in this regulation dependent on grade level band.

Second Offense

Students who are responsible for a second offense of possession or use will be suspended for a period of up to forty (40) weeks. Depending on circumstances, a program of support designed and recommended by the Substance Abuse Counselor and principal, and approved by the Superintendent, may result in a reduced period of suspension.

Instructional Components

A sequential, K-12 prevention curriculum, with strands in the health, science, physical education, and counseling curricula, will be incorporated into the instructional program and will include:

1. Helping students to develop a positive self-concept.
2. Accurate and age-appropriate information about alcohol and other substances along with the physical, psychological, and social consequences of their use/abuse.
3. Helping students develop appropriate life skills and decision-making skills to resist the use of alcohol and/or other substances and to promote healthy lifestyles.

In addition, the District and/or buildings may collaborate with outside agencies, programs, or speakers for classroom or assembly presentations that support the prevention curriculum.

Counseling

Counseling services for students who are involved with alcohol and/or other substances (or who are at risk of becoming involved) will be available through counselors, the Substance Abuse Counselor, and other qualified staff. Counseling may occur at any grade level, may be on an individual or group basis, and may include discussion with parents, as appropriate to the needs of each student. Students are encouraged to refer themselves. Friends, parents, or school staff may also refer them. The goal of counseling will be to prevent or eliminate the student's involvement with alcohol and/or other substances, to minimize the likelihood of re-involvement, and to move the student toward a healthy lifestyle. Counseling may include referral to accredited outside agencies as appropriate. It may also include assistance for students who are returning to school from support programs.

Intervention

When staff members suspect a student is involved with alcohol and/or other substances, the matter will be referred to the building administration and/or a member of the school mental health team. Upon consideration of the issues, they may refer to the PST team and may initiate the intervention process. The student's counselor will manage the process and may include other colleagues as appropriate (school nurse, social worker, Substance Abuse Counselor, school psychologist, administration, etc.).

The process may include:

1. Gathering and evaluation of data indicating or disconfirming suspected use.
2. Sharing of data with the student and their parents/guardians in a supportive context.
3. Offering recommendations to the parent/guardian and student.
4. Arranging for referral of the student to the Substance Abuse Counselor, other resources within the school, and/or accredited outside agencies.
5. Other actions which are likely to eliminate or reduce the student's involvement and promote a healthier and more productive lifestyle.

In addition, the counselor of students returning from support programs will work with administration and other colleagues to provide a supportive context which will minimize recidivism and promote academic productivity.

Co-curricular Policy

At the 7-12 level, a co-curricular participation policy will govern the relationship of alcohol and/or other substances issues to student participation in all co-curricular programs. The policy will be reviewed and updated as needed by the administration and staff of Dake and IHS, and will be widely communicated to students and parents/guardians.

Communication

The District's policies, procedures, resources, and programs regarding alcohol and/or other substances will be communicated to students, parents, and community through a range of media including published policies, regulations, newsletters, building-level handbooks, verbal presentations by school district personnel and other published and electronic materials. Statistics regarding violations of the District's Alcohol and/or Other Substances Policy will be reported on an annual basis. District outcomes rendered by any local, state or national surveys regarding alcohol and/or other substances will be reported biannually.

Staff Training

All professional and paraprofessional staff members will receive training and periodic refreshers on the identification of symptoms of alcohol and/or other substances and of the procedures for referring cases they observe through the proper channels.

All staff will engage in refreshers to follow each building's emergency response plan.

All counselors, pupil personnel services staff, nurses, security and building administrators will receive training and, as necessary, refreshers in approaches to working with students involved

with substance use and to working with their parents/guardians. Other staff members may receive such training as well. In addition, they will also maintain current knowledge of referral agencies outside the school.

Evaluation

Individual programs and curricula related to substance involvement will be monitored and adjusted through the District's annual program assessments, the regular ad hoc process and staff evaluation procedures.

In addition, under the direction of the Superintendent or designee, the District will conduct biennial assessments of risk behaviors among students, including involvement with alcohol and/or other substances. Such assessments will include a comprehensive survey of all students, 7-12. The survey will establish baseline data, will chart changes and trends over time, and will provide a basis for comparison to other communities in the region and beyond.

Information from this survey, as well as from other District assessments of program effectiveness, will help provide the bases for adjusting program priorities, adding or deleting components, and maintaining currency.

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