DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE

The Board of Education is committed to the prevention of alcohol and other substance use/abuse. This policy describes the philosophy of the district and the program elements the district will use to promote healthy lifestyles for its students and to inhibit the use/abuse of alcohol and other substances.

No students may use, possess, sell, offer, manufacture or distribute alcohol or other substances, nor may use or possess drug paraphernalia, on school grounds or at school-sponsored events. Medication as prescribed by a physician may be taken under the supervision of the nurse. The term “alcohol and/or other substances” shall be construed throughout this policy to refer to the use of all substances including but not limited to, alcohol, inhalants, marijuana, cocaine, LSD, PCP, amphetamines, opiates, narcotics, heroin, steroids, look-alike drugs, and any synthetic version thereof (whether or not specifically illegal or labeled for human consumption), commonly referred to as “designer drugs”. Designer drugs are those substances which have been designed and synthesized to mimic the intended effects and usages of, and which are chemically substantially similar to, substances controlled by federal and/or state law as exemplified above. The inappropriate use of prescription and over-the-counter drugs shall also be prohibited.

Additionally, the following persons shall be prohibited from entering school grounds or school-sponsored events: any person exhibiting behavior, conduct, or personal or physical characteristics indicative of having used or consumed alcohol and/or other substances, or any person who school personnel have reasonable grounds to suspect has used alcohol and/or other substances.

In order to educate students on the dangers associated with substance abuse, the health education curriculum shall include instruction concerning drug abuse for grades K-12.

Any staff member observing possession or usage of alcohol and/or other substances by students shall report the incident immediately to the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall then seek immediate action. Students observing possession or usage of alcohol and other substance use/abuse by other students should reference Code of Conduct Pol 5300. Any alcohol and/or other substances found shall be confiscated immediately, followed by notification of the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the student(s) involved and the appropriate disciplinary action taken. Up to and including permanent suspension and referral for prosecution. In its effort to maintain a drug-free environment, the district shall cooperate to the fullest extent possible with local, state and/or federal law enforcement agencies.

The district will use the following principles as guides for the development of its substance use/abuse prevention efforts and for any disciplinary measures related to alcohol and other substances:

- Alcohol and other substance use/abuse is preventable and treatable.
• Alcohol and other substance use/abuse inhibits the district from carrying out its central mission of educating students.

• The behavior of the Board, the administration, and all school staff should model the behavior asked of students.

• While the district can and must assume a leadership role in alcohol and other substance use/abuse prevention, this goal will be accomplished only through coordinated, collaborative efforts with parents, students, staff, and the community as a whole.

Cross-ref: 4317, Teaching about Drugs, Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Harmful Substances
5300, Code of Conduct

20 USC §114-5g; 21 USC §812(c); 42 USC §§5101, 11841; 34 CFR Part 86
Education Law §§804; 912-a; 3214
General Municipal Law §239-u
Mental Hygiene Law §19.07(c)
Penal Law §§220.00 et seq.
Public Health Law, Article 33
8 NYCRR §§100.2(c); 135.3
10 NYCRR Part 9
People v. Scott D., 34 NY2d 483 (1974)
Matter of Wilson, 28 EDR 254 (1988)
Matter of Pollnow, 22 EDR 547 (1983)
Matter of Rodriguez, 8 EDR 214 (1969)

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