

Substance Abuse Program

Actions taken by staff in dealing with student use of alcohol and the use and abuse of controlled illegal, addictive or harmful substances including anabolic steroids will have as their first concern the welfare of the student involved and the other students in the school. Although a helping relationship rather than an investigative and punitive approach will be emphasized, necessary and appropriate disciplinary action will be taken when laws or school regulations are violated. Law enforcement agencies will be called upon for investigative and consultative assistance where illegal drug or alcohol activity has occurred.

Prevention

The prevention program shall focus on classroom instruction, guidance services and the school climate.

Instruction

This dimension of the prevention program shall focus on:

- A. The effects of addictive substances such as alcohol, drugs and nicotine upon the body.
- B. Skill development related to self esteem, goal-setting, decision-making, conflict management, problem-solving, refusal and communication.

Guidance Services

Staff shall meet with students, individually and in small groups, to supplement addictive substance prevention, instruction and skill development. Staff will also assist parents to maximize the prevention efforts of the school.

School Climate

A facilitative school environment can help students to achieve in a productive manner (academically, socially and emotionally). The school shall strive to be a place where:

- A. Students, staff, and parents respect themselves and others.
- B. Individuals can be trusted to do what they say they will do.
- C. High morale is evident.
- D. Each person feels that he/she has a voice in the decisions that affect him/her.
- E. All feel that they are continuing to learn and grow.
- F. All value diversity and accept it as an opportunity for growth and development.
- G. All possess a "sense of belonging."
- H. All feel that they can make a difference to someone else.

To this end, the school will encourage the formation of "natural helper," Core Team and any education and/or prevention promotions that increase the awareness of the effects of substance abuse. Student support groups shall assist students concerned about their own substance abuse, students living in families suffering from substance abuse, and students concerned about the substance abuse of someone else.

If a school administrator receives information concerning sales and use of addictive substances outside of school, the information will be reported to law enforcement officials for their investigation.