

REPORTING STUDENTS UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF OR POSSESSING ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES OR CONTROLLED DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES

It is the policy of the Bethel Board of Education that any administrator, teacher, or counselor who has reasonable suspicion that a student may be under the influence of, or has in his or her possession, alcoholic beverages - including the legally nonintoxicating beverage commonly referred to as 3.2 beer (low-point beer) - or a controlled dangerous substance as defined by law shall immediately notify the principal of such suspicions. The principal shall immediately notify the superintendent of schools and a parent or legal guardian of said student's possession of a controlled or counterfeit substance or suspected abuse thereof.

Any search, seizure, or subsequent disciplinary action shall be subject to applicable school policies, regulations, state laws, or student handbook rules.

Every administrator, teacher, or counselor employed by the board of education who has reason to believe that a student is under the influence of, or has possession of, alcoholic beverages (including 3.2 beer) or a controlled dangerous substance and who reports such information to appropriate school officials shall not be subject to civil liability unless such referral was made in bad faith or with malicious purpose.

This policy shall be distributed to each classroom teacher. Receipt shall be acknowledged in a form to be determined by the superintendent.

REFERENCE: 70 O.S. §24-138
63 O.S. §2-101, et seq.
70 O.S. §24-102
37 O.S. §163.2

NOTE: A copy of this policy must be filed with the State Superintendent of Public Instruction in accordance with 70 O.S. §24-138. While the cited statute requires only that school districts develop a written policy requiring only *teachers* to report students under the influence of certain substances, the State Department of Education has interpreted the civil liability exemption statute (70 O.S. §24-132) as requiring school administrators, teachers, or counselors to make such reports. Therefore, a school district's policy may be written to require reporting by administrators, teachers, and counselors.

THIS POLICY REQUIRED BY LAW.