

STUDENT CONDUCT
ALCOHOL AND DRUG USE

FNCF
ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION

PURPOSE FOR
SUBSTANCE ABUSE
ASSESSMENT

Drug and alcohol abuse in any school is a threat to the safety and health of students, faculty, staff, and the community as a whole. It jeopardizes the efficiency and the quality of educational programs, as well as, having the potential of physical harm. The risks associated with such abuse may include the possibility of impaired judgement, diminished capacity, deterioration of the organs of the body, addiction, and conditions that substantially inhibit a person from performing to his/her fullest ability. The Substance Abuse Assessment is not intended to be solely disciplinary or punitive in nature. The educational opportunities offered will continue to direct students away from drugs and alcohol and toward a healthy, safe, and drug-free life.

REASONABLE
SUSPICION

Administrators of the Eagle Mountain-Saginaw ISD are authorized by the EMS ISD School Board to require any EMS student to submit to a substance abuse assessment if the administrator has "reasonable suspicion" that the student is under the influence of alcohol, marijuana, or any other illegal substance while:

- a) On school grounds;
- b) Off school grounds at a school activity, function, event, or any other school sponsored activity;
- c) When traveling to or from school by bus or other district provided transportation.

CAUSES FOR
REASONABLE
SUSPICION

Reasonable suspicion may arise from the following:

- a) A student's behavior, in conjunction with physical appearance, actions, and/or odor, indicating the possibility that the student has used or is in possession of alcohol, marijuana, or any other controlled substance;
- b) The student possesses drug paraphernalia, alcohol, marijuana, any controlled substance, or any substance school personnel reasonably believe to be a controlled substance;
- c) Information communicated to an administrator by a teacher, parent, law enforcement personnel, other adult, or a student indicating a student is using, possessing, or under the influence of alcohol, marijuana, or any other illegal substance. Any such report will be investigated by the school's administration and will be substantiated by other physical indicators or physical appearance, if deemed necessary.

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POSSIBLE SIGNS OF
BEING UNDER THE
INFLUENCE

Being “under the influence” means lacking the normal use of mental or physical faculties. Impairment of a person’s physical and/or mental faculties may be evidenced by a pattern of abnormal or erratic behavior and/or the presence of physical symptoms of drug or alcohol use. A student “under the influence” need not be legally intoxicated to trigger disciplinary action. The following list contains examples of indicators of possible drug or alcohol use, which includes, but is not limited to the following:

1. The person may stumble, stagger, fall, or be unsteady while walking or standing.
2. The person, when speaking, may be incoherent, ramble, slur words, nervous, be inappropriately loud, shout, or conversely, be silent at an inappropriate time.
3. The person may use profanity, increased or extreme hostility, be overly aggressive, uncooperative, or seek to engage in physical altercation. The person may also present as sleepy or cry inappropriately.
4. The person’s eyes may have dilated or constricted pupils, may be bloodshot/red, or may be glassy.
5. The person may smell like alcohol or like an illicit drug, such as marijuana.
6. The person may be in possession of evidence of alcohol or drugs, such as a bottle, residue, pills, and/or drug paraphernalia.

INVESTIGATION
PROCESS

In order to maintain consistency across the district, when there is reason to suspect a student is under the influence of drugs or alcohol, the following investigative process is to occur:

1. The staff member shall call an administrator to the location of the student.
2. The administrator shall walk the student to a District nurse’s office.
3. A District nurse shall utilize the Substance Abuse Impairment Assessment to collect further data and the administrator shall search and question the student. In cases where a District nurse is offsite or unavailable, then an SRO may administer the impairment assessment. The administrator and a District nurse shall use the findings to

determine next steps:

- a. If emergency conditions exist, the nurse shall call first responders/EMS, and the administrator shall contact SRO, a parent, and notify Student Services. The administrator, SRO and nurse shall also take one of the following actions:
 - i. If the assessment indicates reasonable and legal explanations for the behavior, the administrator shall notify Student Services and the nurse shall file a report.
 - ii. If physical evidence exists, such as the controlled substance, alcohol, or other related paraphernalia, the SRO shall gather information and proceed in accordance with Police Department regulations, and the administrator shall assign discipline in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct within three (3) days or upon completion of suspension.
 - iii. If no other physical evidence exists, such as the controlled substance, alcohol, or other related paraphernalia, the administrator shall assign discipline in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct within three (3) days or upon completion of suspension.
- b. If emergency conditions do not exist and the assessment indicates reasonable and legal explanations for behavior, the nurse or the administrator shall call a parent to pick up the student.
- c. If emergency conditions do not exist and the assessment indicates the student is under the influence of drugs or alcohol, the administrator shall call a SRO to the nurse's office. The police officer shall collaborate with the nurse and administrator. The administrator and SRO will take one of the following actions:
 - i. If the evaluation indicates the student is under the influence of drugs or alcohol, the administrator shall contact parents to pick up the student and the SRO may take actions in accordance with Police Department

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regulations. The administrator shall issue a suspension from school. The administrator shall notify Student Services, and shall complete the assignment of discipline in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct within three (3) days or upon completion of suspension.

- ii. If the evaluation indicates that the student is under the influence of drugs or alcohol but no physical evidence exists, the administrator shall contact parents and suspend the student, notify Student Services, and complete the assignment of discipline in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct within three (3) days or upon completion of suspension. The SRO may file a police report.