EASTCONN
Where Learning Comes to Life

PERSONNEL
Series 4000
Policy #4018.1.1

Psychotropic Drug Use

The EASTCONN Board of Directors, in accordance with CGS 10-212b, prohibits all school personnel from recommending the use of psychotropic drugs for any student enrolled within the school system. Moreover, personnel may not require that a child obtain a prescription for a controlled substance in order for the child to: (1) attend school; (2) receive an initial evaluation or reevaluation to determine eligibility for special education; or (3) receive special education and related services. For purposes of this policy, the term "recommend" shall mean to directly or indirectly suggest that a child use psychotropic drugs.

Psychotropic drugs are defined as prescription medications for behavioral or social-emotional concerns, such as attentional deficits, impulsivity, anxiety, depression and thought disorders and includes, but is not limited to stimulant medications and anti-depressants.

However, school health or mental health personnel, including school nurses or nurse practitioners, EASTCONN's Medical Advisor, school psychologists, school social workers, and school counselors (note: The EASTCONN Board of Directors may also include other school personnel it has identified as the person responsible for communication with a parent or guardian about a child's need for medical evaluation, such as EASTCONN's director of special services/special education.) may recommend that a student be evaluated by an appropriate medical practitioner and school personnel may consult with such practitioner with the consent of the parents/guardian of such child in accordance with this policy.

EASTCONN shall follow procedures for identification, evaluation, placement and delivery of services to children with disabilities or suspected disabilities provided in state and federal statutes that govern special education.

(cf. 5005.1.1 - Child Sexual Abuse and Assault Response Policy and Reporting Procedure)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-212b Policies prohibiting the recommendation of psychotropic drugs by school personnel. (as amended by PA 03-211)

46b-120. Definitions

10 76a Definitions. (as amended by PA 00-48)

10 76b State supervision of special education programs and services.

10 76d Duties and powers of boards of education to provide special education programs and services. (as amended by PA 97-114 and PA 00-48)

10 76h Special education hearing and review procedure. Mediation of disputes. (as amended by PA 00-48)

State Board of Education Regulations.

34 C.F.R. 3000 Assistance to States for Education for Handicapped Children. 34 C.F.R. §300.174 Prohibition on mandatory medication

American with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §12101 et seq. Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. §1400 et seq. Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504, 29 U.S.C. § 794.

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