

DRUG, TOBACCO, AND ALCOHOL USE BY STUDENTS

The Board and staff of RSU #2 support a safe and healthy learning environment for students which is free of the detrimental effects of drugs, tobacco and alcohol. Accomplishing this goal requires a cooperative effort among school staff, students, parents, law enforcement and organizations concerned with the use of drugs, tobacco and alcohol by school-aged youth.

In order to promote the safety, health and well-being of students, the School Board endorses a three-pronged approach to address the issue of drug, tobacco and alcohol use: prevention/education, intervention and discipline. The Superintendent is responsible for developing appropriate administrative procedures, curricula and programs to implement this policy.

Prohibited Conduct

No student shall distribute, dispense, possess, use or be under the influence of any alcoholic beverage, malt beverage, fortified wine or other intoxicating liquor. Nor shall a student manufacture, distribute, dispense, possess, use or be under the influence of any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana, anabolic steroid, any other controlled substance defined in federal and state laws/regulations (unless prescribed by a physician), any look-alike substance, or any substance that is represented to be controlled substance.

These prohibitions apply to any student who is on school property, who is in attendance at school or at any school-sponsored activity, or whose conduct at any time or place directly interferes with the operations, discipline or general welfare of the school.

Smoking and the use, possession, provision and sale of tobacco products are prohibited by school policy in school buildings, on school grounds, on school busses, and at school-sponsored functions at all times by all persons.

Disciplinary Action

Students shall be referred to law enforcement authorities for investigation and/or prosecution. Principals may suspend and/or recommend expulsion of students who violate this policy, based upon the facts of each case and in accordance with established disciplinary procedures.

Prevention/Education

The RSU will provide students with appropriate information and activities focused on educating students about drugs, tobacco and alcohol and preventing abuse of these substances.

Intervention

The RSU will establish a team approach (Principal, Counselor, Nurse, etc.) to intervene with students with drug/tobacco/alcohol problems. Students will be assisted in addressing their drug/tobacco/alcohol problems and in continuing their educational program. Students will be provided with information and referral, if necessary, to aid them in obtaining assistance from appropriate community organizations. Student records concerning such interventions shall be kept confidential as required by state and federal laws.

Policy Communication

The RSU shall distribute this policy and appropriate related information to staff, students and parents on an annual basis through handbooks, district website and/or other means selected by the Superintendent and building administrators, i.e. announcement of Tobacco Free Environment at public events.

Legal Reference: 21 USC § 812 (Controlled Substance Act)
21 CFR Part 1300.11-15
Pub.L.No. 101-226 (Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act
Amendments of 1989)
17-A MRSA § 1101
42 USC § 290dd-2
42 CFR § 2.1 et seq.
20-A MRSA §§ 1001 (9); 4008

Cross Reference: ADC – Tobacco Use and Possession
GBEC – Drug-Free Workplace
JICIA – Weapons, Violence and School Safety
JKD – Suspension of Students
JKE – Expulsion of Students
JLCD – Administration of Medication to Students
JRA – Student Education Records

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