In addition to the basic programs approved by the board, the district shall provide student support programs. Support program information approved by the board shall be filed with the clerk and made available to staff as needed.

#### Drug Education

All students shall be made aware of the legal, social and health consequences of drug and alcohol use. Students shall be instructed on effective techniques for resisting peer pressure to use illicit drugs or alcohol. Students shall be informed that the use of illicit drugs and the unlawful possession and use of alcohol is both wrong and harmful.

The board's comprehensive drug and alcohol abuse and prevention program shall be included as part of the district's curriculum. The curriculum at each grade level shall be age-appropriate and developmentally based.

A student who voluntarily seeks assistance, advice or counseling from school personnel regarding drugs or drug abuse shall not be disciplined by school authorities because the student sought assistance.

### Student Mental Health

Appropriate mental health awareness and suicide prevention programs shall be initiated and continued in the district.

The superintendent shall develop and implement a student mental health awareness program. If professionals necessary to carry out this program are not available within the school system, the superintendent shall identify community or area mental health agencies able to provide the necessary assistance and seek to establish a continuing cooperative relationship with the appropriate agencies

# **Dropout Prevention**

The programs to prevent students from dropping out of school, or to encourage dropouts to return to school shall be recommended to the board by the High School staff. The staff shall incorporate the philosophy and goals of this policy into the schools' programs.

## At-Risk Students

The superintendent shall be responsible for developing a program for identifying and working with at-risk students.

### Guidance

The guidance program shall be organized to meet the needs, interests and abilities of all students.

Counselor(s) shall perform guidance services consistent with district philosophy, job descriptions and board policies.

### Homebound Instruction

If a child is unable to attend school because of lengthy illness or injury, homebound instruction may be provided if:

The parent makes the request for homebound instruction; and

The family physician recommends homebound instruction in writing.

The principal shall be responsible for obtaining a teacher for the student. When appropriate, the director of special education is responsible for

filing the necessary papers with the Division of Special Education, State Board of Education.

Approved: 2-9-98