

INSTRUCTION

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TEACHING ABOUT ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND DRUGS

The district shall provide age-appropriate, developmentally appropriate, evidence-based alcohol, tobacco and drug prevention education programs in all grades. The program shall address the legal, social, and health consequences of alcohol, tobacco and drug use with emphasis on school-age children. The program shall include information about effective techniques and skill development for delaying and abstaining from using, as well as skills for addressing peer pressure to use alcohol, tobacco or drugs.

The objectives of the program are rooted in the belief that prevention requires education and that the most important aspect of the policies and guidelines of the district should be the education of children and youth on healthy decision-making:

- To prevent, delay and/or reduce alcohol, tobacco and drug use among children and youth;
- To increase students' understanding of the legal, social, and health consequences of alcohol, tobacco and drug use;
- To teach students self-management skills, social skills, negotiation skills and refusal skills that will help them to make healthy decisions to avoid alcohol, tobacco and drug use.

The curriculum, instructional materials and outcomes used in this program shall be recommended by the superintendent and approved by the School Committee.

This policy shall be posted on the district's website and provided to students and parents in accordance as required.

Legal Reference:

M.G.L., ch.71, sec.96

Adopted: October 12, 1978
Reviewed: January 24, 2002
Revised: August 25, 2016