

RSU #16 (Mechanic Falls, Minot, Poland)

Policy Code: JICH

Adopted: August 2004

Revised: January 2010

Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Use by Students

Policy

The teachers, coaches, administrators and the School Board are truly concerned with the student as a "whole" person and his/her overall growth and development. Chemical dependency is recognized as a treatable disease, which may interfere with the learning process, create severe interpersonal problems and cause physical and emotional suffering to the user as well as to family and close associates. Substance use/abuse may permeate all facets of the community. Therefore, the District will cooperate with effective organizations to help detect, diagnose and treat affected students. The School Board unequivocally endorses the philosophy that the schools should be free from the detrimental effects of illicit drugs, alcohol and tobacco.

In order to ensure the highest possible standards of learning, as well as the safety, health and well-being of students, the School Board endorses a substance abuse policy which will aid students to abstain from the use of drugs, alcohol and tobacco, provide for early intervention when use is detected, corrective disciplinary sanctions when necessary, and aftercare support as appropriate. Compliance with the District's standards of conduct related to substance abuse is mandatory.

Prevention

The District will provide students with information and activities addressing the legal, social and health consequences of drug, alcohol and tobacco abuse. Students are to be taught how to resist peer pressure.

Intervention

The Student Assistance Team (SAT) **(or the equivalent)** in each school will be called upon to make a recommendation concerning each case. The SAT will have responsibility for case decisions and will be composed of individuals with multi-disciplinary functions. Composition will include an administrator, the student's guidance counselor, the school nurse, at least one teacher (preferable one of the student's teachers), and others as deemed appropriate. One of the team members shall be designated as the student's case manager. Students are to be assisted in addressing their harmful involvement with chemicals and in continuing in their educational programs. Moreover, information and referral shall be provided, as appropriate, to aid involved students in connecting with community agencies for drug, alcohol and tobacco use treatment.

Rules and Sanctions

No student shall distribute, dispense, possess, use or be under the influence of any alcoholic beverage, malt beverage or fortified wine or other intoxicating liquor. Nor shall a student unlawfully 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 (as defined in schedules I through V of § 202 of the Federal Controlled Substances Act [21 USC, § 812]; by regulation at 21 CFR, 1300.11 through 1300.15; and in Maine's Title 17-A MRSA, § 1101), or any substance purported to be such, before, during and after school hours, at school or in any other school system location, defined as follows:

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"School system location" means in any school building or on any school premises; in any school-owned vehicle or in any other school-approved vehicle used to transport students to and from school or school activities; off school property at any school-sponsored or school-approved activity, event or function, such as a field trip or athletic event, where students are under the jurisdiction of the school system.

A student who violates the terms of this policy may be disciplined, including suspension or expulsion from school, at the appropriate discretion of the administration and the School Board, and in accordance with sanctions detailed in District administrative procedures. A student may be referred to law enforcement authorities for investigation and/or prosecution.

In addition, a student who violates the terms of this policy shall be given the opportunity to receive intervention services as described above. Failure to cooperate shall result in full imposition of disciplinary sanctions. School staff shall maintain close cooperation with public medical, legal and law enforcement agencies, as well as parents, in the prevention of drug abuse and in the rehabilitation of drug users.

Implementation

The Superintendent shall be responsible for the development and promulgation of appropriate curricula, programs and procedures to implement this policy.

Communication

This policy and appropriate related information are to be distributed to students and parents annually through means selected by the administration.

Review

The Superintendent is to oversee a biennial review of the policy and regulations to determine the programs' effectiveness, to implement changes to programs, policies and procedures, as needed, and to ensure that disciplinary sanctions are consistently enforced.

SIGNATURE BLOCK:

RSU #16 School Board

Dave Griffith, Chair

DATE

Yvette Murray, Vice Chair

DATE

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Annette Annance

DATE

Carlton Beckett

DATE

Yvon Gilbert

DATE

Susan Callahan

DATE

Norm Davis

DATE

Melissa Hodgkin

DATE

Steve Holbrook

DATE

Mary Ella Jones

DATE

Jeanne Manley

DATE

Scott Sawyer

DATE

Martha Stone

DATE

Jack Wiseman

DATE

Chris Woodford

DATE