

## **Student Involvement with Dangerous Drugs**

### A. Goals

District and building staff will work together and with the community to establish programs for all students that support abstinence from alcohol or other drugs or substances which were not prescribed for the individual and are capable of or intended, purported, or presumed to be capable of altering a student's mood, perception, behavior, or judgment, other than properly used, over-the-counter pain relievers and medications prescribed by a physician for an individual student and used at school in accordance with Policy 3416. Building programs will be supported by the district advisory committee.

The district and building programs will address prevention, intervention, referral, support for past users, and discipline policies.

### B. Prevention

Prevention programs will focus on classroom instruction, guidance services, co-curricular programs, and school climate.

1. The instructional program will focus on the effects of alcohol and drugs upon the body; skill development related to self-esteem; goal-setting; decision-making; conflict management; problem-solving; communication and refusal; and will include direct instruction by teachers. Community resources such as the DARE program will be used whenever possible.
2. Guidance services will educate and counsel with students individually and/or in groups to supplement prevention instruction and skill development. Staff will work with parents to maximize the prevention efforts of the school.
3. The school staff will work with students and the community to encourage formation of a variety of co-curricular activities, including drug-related programs such as Natural Helpers, Washington Teen Institute, Students Against Drunk Driving, and Alcoholics Anonymous, as well as activities that promote bonding and healthful leisure-time activities, such as sports, arts, and service and interest clubs.
4. Each school will strive for an environment where respect, trust, belonging, and continued growth are fostered, since bonding with schools is a primary abuse prevention tool for all children, including the very young.

### C. Intervention and Referral

Intervention programs will focus on the elimination of drug/alcohol abuse by students.

1. Each school will develop systems for the identification of students at risk or in need of assistance; for possible recommendations for services or referrals; for confidentiality of record-keeping; and for parental involvement.
2. In-service will be made available for faculty and staff. In-service programs may include the following: the dimensions of the family illness and the dynamics of the addiction process; enabling behaviors; intervention techniques; children in chemically-dependent families; student experimentation, abuse, and dependency; parental involvement and community resources; prevention issues and strategies; treatment and support for past users; and implementation of the building program.
3. When a student is suspected of being under the influence of alcohol or drugs not specifically prescribed for the individual student while in school or in attendance at a school-sponsored activity, or when a student

admits to a school staff member that he or she has ingested drugs, the matter should be handled as a medical emergency (Policy 343l), since student safety is the foremost consideration.

#### D. Support for Past Users

The district and building programs will be supportive of students who are past users but have not availed themselves of treatment, as well as students returning to school from a community inpatient or outpatient program. Primary aftercare responsibility for recovering students rests with the student and parent. The district support for recovering students may include

1. Flexibility in school placement that will accommodate both intra-district and inter-district transfers;
2. To enhance recovery, flexibility in the daily schedule, such as a shortened schedule; sensitivity to placement; and accommodation of meetings, such as Alcoholics Anonymous;
3. Personal support through the school's guidance team;
4. Support groups on a daily or weekly basis as needed and as funding allows; and
5. Cooperation with parents, student, and treatment personnel to facilitate the recovery plan.

#### E. Discipline Policies

Corrective actions will include school discipline and referral to law enforcement agencies.

1. When a student is suspected of being under the influence of alcohol or drugs not specifically prescribed for the individual student while in school or in attendance at a school-sponsored activity, or when a student admits to a school staff member that he or she has ingested drugs, the matter will be dealt with in keeping with the district discipline policy (3300). Parents or guardians will be notified.
2. If school authorities find a student in possession of alcohol or other drugs or substances which were not prescribed for the individual and are capable of or intended, purported, or presumed to be capable of altering a student's mood, perception, behavior or judgment, other than properly used, over-the-counter pain relievers and medications prescribed by a physician for an individual student and used at school in accordance with Policy 3416, at school or a school-sponsored event, the drugs will be confiscated and turned over to law enforcement officials for investigation and disposal. Regardless of law enforcement action, appropriate school disciplinary action will be taken by a school administrator.
3. If a school administrator has evidence that a student is attempting to distribute to others alcohol or other drugs or substances which were not prescribed for the individual and are capable of or intended, purported, or presumed to be capable of altering a student's mood, perception, behavior or judgment, other than properly used, over-the-counter pain relievers and medications prescribed by a physician for an individual student and used at school in accordance with Policy 3416, or is encouraging others to seek out a source of supply, the incident will be reported to law enforcement officials. Regardless of law enforcement action, appropriate school disciplinary action will be taken.
4. If a school administrator receives information concerning distribution or use of alcohol or other drugs or substances which were not prescribed for the individual and are capable of or intended, purported, or presumed to be capable of altering a student's mood, perception, behavior or judgment, other than properly used, over-the-counter pain relievers and medications prescribed by a physician for an individual student and used at school in accordance with Policy 3416, outside of school, the information will be reported to law enforcement officials for their investigation, and the student may be subject to disciplinary action in connection with co-curricular activities.