

STUDENT ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, AND DRUG USE

Actions taken by staff in dealing with student use of alcohol, tobacco, and controlled illegal, addictive, or harmful substances including anabolic steroids will have as their first concern the welfare of the student involved and the other students in the school. Although a helping relationship rather than an investigative and punitive approach will be emphasized, necessary and appropriate disciplinary action will be taken when laws or school regulations are violated. Law enforcement agencies will be called upon for investigative and consultative assistance where illegal drug or alcohol activity has occurred.

Prevention

The prevention program shall focus on classroom instruction, guidance services, and the school climate.

Instruction

This dimension of the prevention program shall focus on:

- A. The effects upon the body of addictive substances such as alcohol, drugs, and nicotine.
- B. Skill development related to self-esteem, goal-setting, decision-making, conflict management, problem-solving, refusal, and communication.

Guidance Services

Staff shall meet with students, individually and in small groups, to supplement addictive substance prevention, instruction, and skill development. Staff will also assist parent(s) to maximize the prevention efforts of the school.

School Climate

A facilitative school environment can help students to achieve in a productive manner (academically, socially, and emotionally). The school shall strive to be a place where:

- A. Students, staff, and parent(s) respect themselves and others.
- B. Individuals can be trusted to do what they say they will do.
- C. High morale is evident.
- D. Each person feels that he/she has a voice in the decisions that affect him/her.
- E. All feel that they are continuing to learn and grow.
- F. All value diversity and accept it as an opportunity for growth and development.
- G. All possess a "sense of belonging".

H. All feel that they can make a difference to someone else.

To this end, the school will encourage the formation of education and/or prevention promotions that increase the awareness of the effects of substance abuse. Student support groups shall assist students concerned about their own substance abuse, students living in families suffering from substance abuse, and students concerned about the substance abuse of someone else.

Intervention

The goal of the intervention program shall be to eliminate student use of tobacco, alcohol and controlled, illegal, addictive, or harmful substances including anabolic steroids.

Ongoing in-service will be provided for faculty and staff. Important aspects of in-service training will include dimensions of the family illness and 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 aftercare support; and implementation of the program into the classroom/building.

Staff roles for the intervention program are as follows:

- A. Administrators, counselors, selected staff, and the nurse shall meet regularly for the purpose of identifying any student(s) who may be in need of assistance. Such staff shall be sensitive to identifying symptoms of substance abuse.
- B. A guidance team will meet regularly to review referrals; confer with students and, if warranted, counselors, administrators and/or parents; collect data; make recommendations for services; and maintain a confidential system of record keeping. Parent(s) will be involved before any action is taken.
- C. Primary aftercare responsibility for students returning from a community treatment program rests with the student, parent(s), and community treatment program personnel. School staff, the student, parent(s), and community treatment personnel will work cooperatively to facilitate the aftercare plan.

Corrective Action

If a student appears at school or at a school-sponsored function demonstrating behavior which indicates that he/she may be under the influence of alcohol or any other controlled, illegal, addictive, or harmful substances and/or admits to an administrator that he/she is under the influence, the school will take the following action:

- A. The parent(s) will be notified as soon as possible and encouraged to arrange for appropriate individual assessment and treatment.

- B. If the student's illegal use of controlled substances is confirmed, the school administration will request the assistance of law enforcement officials in investigating the source of the addictive substance.
- C. Appropriate investigation and school disciplinary action will be taken by a school administrator regardless of law enforcement action. (See Policy/Procedure 3241: Classroom Management, Corrective Actions, and Sanctions)
- D. Any illegal substances confiscated will be turned over to law enforcement officials for disposal.

If a school administrator receives information concerning sales and use of controlled substances outside of school, the information will be reported to law enforcement officials for their investigation.

Program Evaluation

The school district's prevention and intervention programs and services will be evaluated on a regular basis. The district's Health Education Advisory Committee will work with school administration and staff to develop annual action and evaluation plans.