

## **TEACHING ABOUT ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, AND OTHER DRUGS**

In accordance with state and federal law, the District shall provide age-appropriate, developmentally appropriate, evidence-based alcohol, tobacco, and drug education and prevention programs in grades K-12.

The alcohol, tobacco and drug education and prevention programs shall address the legal, social, and health consequences of using alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. It shall include special instruction as to the effects of alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs upon the human system; the emotional, psychological and social dangers of such use with emphasis on nonuse by school age children and the illegal aspects of such use. The program also shall include information about effective techniques and skill development for delaying and abstaining from using alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs, as well as effective techniques and skill development for resisting peer pressure to use alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs.

The objectives of this program, as stated below, are rooted in the Committee's belief that prevention requires education, and that the most important aspect of the policies and guidelines of the District should be the education of each individual to the dangers of using alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs. The program objectives include:

To create an awareness of all aspects of using alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs -- prevention, education, treatment, rehabilitation, and law enforcement on the local, state, national and international levels.

To prevent, delay, and/or reduce alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use among children and youth.

To relate the use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs to physical, mental, social and emotional practices.

To develop the student's ability to make health-enhancing choices based on facts and to develop the courage to stand by one's own convictions, including teaching students self-management skills, social skills, negotiation skills, and refusal skills that will help them to make health-enhancing decisions and avoid use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs.

To understand the personal, social and economic problems causing the misuse of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs.

To develop an interest in preventing the illegal use and decreasing the presence of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs in the community.

Adopted: November 21, 2011  
Revised: September 12, 2016

LEGAL REFS.: M.G.L. 71:1

CROSS REFS: GBED, Drug Free Workplace Policy