

SCHOOL SYSTEM POLICY ON DRUG USE

The School Committee recognizes its share of the responsibility for the health, welfare, and safety of the students who attend the system's schools. The Committee is concerned about the community problem of drug misuse and further recognizes that the illegal and inappropriate use of narcotic drugs, depressants, and other controlled substances constitutes a hazard to the positive development of students. Therefore, the school system's policy on drugs requires:

1. The education of students to bring about awareness and understanding of the dangers inherent in the use of controlled drugs.
2. The provision in each school of counseling services that will make it possible for students engaged in drug use to seek and get counseling any time without fear of reprisal and with assurance of the confidentiality of the counseling.
3. Emergency health and safety care which may be in order for students under the active influence of drugs at school or in connection with any school activity.
4. Close cooperation by school officials with parents or guardians of students seriously suspected or reliably reported to be illegally involved with (controlled) drugs. This requires that parents be notified and conferences with them be arranged when suspicion of drug use and misuse in any form (use, possession, or distribution) is sufficiently founded. This is intended as a time when school officials may work with parents or guardians on issues regarding counseling, treatment, disciplinary action, and involvement of law enforcement agencies.
5. The prohibition of the use, possession, or distribution of illegal drugs on school property or in connection with any school activity on or off the school sites, as set forth in detail in Policy JICH, Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Use by Students Prohibited.
6. That drug policies and administrative procedures for implementing the policies be legally as well as educationally sound.

Adopted: November 21, 2011

Revised: September 12, 2016

CROSS REFS.: IHAMA, Teaching About Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs
JICH, Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Use by Students Prohibited
GBEC, Drug Free Workplace Policy