

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Primary Prevention

The intent of primary prevention programming is to prevent or delay the onset of alcohol, tobacco, and other substance use by students. The components of this programming shall include:

1. A sequential K-12 prevention curriculum that provides for:

Accurate and age-appropriate information about alcohol, tobacco, and other substances, including the physical, psychological, and social consequences of their use/abuse.

Information about the relationship of alcohol and other substances use/abuse to other health-compromising issues such as AIDS, teenage pregnancy, eating disorders, child abuse, suicide, dropping out of school, driving while under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol, body strength inducing chemicals (anabolic steroids) and prescription misuse.

Helping students develop appropriate life skills, including refusal skills, to resist the use of alcohol and other substances and to promote healthy life styles.

Helping students develop a positive self-concept through positive reinforcement of all District staff, and self-esteem building skills where deemed necessary.

Helping students identify when they are under stress, and how to manage or reduce stress through non-chemical means.

2. Training school staff, parents and guardians to use the information and skills necessary to reinforce the components of this policy in the home, school and community.
3. Community education about the issues of alcohol, tobacco, and other substance use/abuse as a basis for providing a consistent message to district youth.
4. Positive alternatives to alcohol and other substance use/abuse, such as peer leadership programs, service projects, and recreational and extra-curricular activities. Such activities will be planned collaboratively by students, school staff, parents, community members, and agencies.

Intervention

The intent of intervention programming is to eliminate any existing use/abuse of alcohol and other substances, and to identify and provide supportive services to kindergarten through 12th grade students at high risk for such use/abuse. The components of such programming shall include:

1. Providing alcohol and other substance use/abuse assessment and counseling services for students.
2. Developing a referral process between District schools and community providers.
3. Identifying and referring students to appropriate agencies when their use/abuse of alcohol and/or other substances requires counseling and/or treatment.
4. Early intervention of the school's Crisis Intervention Team, which will assess students' needs.
5. Providing services to students in, or returning from treatment to assure that the school environment supports the process of recovery initiated in the treatment program.
6. Providing individual, group, and family counseling targeted at students at high risk for alcohol and/or other substance use/abuse.
7. Educating parents on when and how to use the District's intervention services.
8. Educating District staff to identify and assess a child's need for referral to early intervention and counseling.
9. Confidentiality pursuant to Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), appropriate State and applicable school policy.

Employee Assistance Program

The Board of Education recognizes that the problems of alcohol and other substance use/abuse are not limited to the student population but affect every segment of society. As such, the Board will negotiate with the District's collective bargaining units to establish an appropriate Employee Assistance Program that will provide appropriate and confidential prevention, intervention, assessment, referral, support, and follow-up services for District staff who seek assistance with alcohol and other substance use/abuse related problems, emotional problems, mental illness, and other human problems. District staff will be informed as to the services they can receive through the Employee Assistance Program, and encouraged to seek such help voluntarily.

The District recognizes that it has no right to intervene unless employees' personal problems adversely affect their job performance. When unsatisfactory performance does occur, the District's supervisory personnel will encourage employees to manage and move toward a resolution of their problems on their own or with the help of the Employees Assistance Program or other appropriate means.

Disciplinary Measures

Disciplinary measures for students found to have used or to be using, in possession of, selling, or distributing alcohol and/or other substances, and for students possessing drug paraphernalia are outlined in the District's policy on Student Rights and Responsibilities and in conformance with rules and procedures set forth in New York State Education Law. Disciplinary measures for District staff are addressed in Education Law 1711 (3) (e), 2508 (5), 3020-a and 913.

Students who are disciplined for any of these infractions will be referred to the intervention services established by this policy, or, in the case of District staff, will be referred to the Employee Assistance Program or appropriate programs. The range of penalties is described in Policy 7.2.2 Project SAVE. Further, information is contained in Education Law S2801.

Staff Development

The Board recognizes that if the administrative, instructional, and non-instructional staff are to be responsible for understanding, implementing and modeling this policy, they must be trained about the components of an effective alcohol and other substance prevention program. Staff training will be an ongoing process including the following:

1. For all staff:
 - a. An understanding of why individuals use and abuse alcohol and other substances;
 - b. Their role in implementing this policy, including how to identify students who exhibit high risk behaviors or who are using/abusing alcohol and other substances, and how to refer these students to the appropriate services established by this policy.
 - c. Awareness of personal risk factors for alcohol and other substance use/abuse so that they may identify personal use/abuse problems and seek assistance; and
 - d. Awareness of the special needs of students returning from treatment.

2. Additionally for teachers: The knowledge and skills necessary to implement the District's K-12 alcohol and other substance prevention curriculum.
3. For intervention staff: Appropriate staff training for those identified to carry out the intervention function to assure that their assessment, individual, group and family counseling and referral skills support the needs of high-risk, using and abusing youth.
4. For prevention staff: Appropriate staff training to assure that they have the necessary knowledge and skills to support the application of prevention concepts through programming targeted at the school, home and community.

Implementation, Dissemination and Monitoring

The Board of Education directs the Superintendent to collaborate with District staff, parents, students, community members, organizations and agencies, including alcohol and other substance abuse service providers, in developing the specific programs and strategies necessary to implement this policy.

Upon adoption, copies of the **SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY** will be distributed to and reviewed with all District staff, students, and parents annually, and will be disseminated to the public through community organizations and the media.

The Superintendent is responsible for providing the board with an annual review of this policy, the programs and strategies implementing it, and his or her recommendations for revisions in the policy.

Definitions and Terminology

Aftercare - Aftercare is support and services to individuals returning from a residential treatment center.

Alcohol - Alcohol is an addictive depressant drug that affects the central nervous system. The chemical compound ethyl alcohol has the same sedative effect as tranquilizers and sleeping pills, and it is toxic.

Board - Board of Education of Broadalbin-Perth Central School District.

Comprehensive Prevention - A comprehensive prevention program includes the following seven elements:

1. Accurate information about alcohol and other substances;
2. Affective education and the development of pro-social skills;

3. Recognition of the role stress plays and development of techniques to manage and reduce it;
4. Provision of alternatives to using alcohol and other substances;
5. Early identification and intervention services aimed at high-risk youth and at youth who may already be using or abusing alcohol and other substances;
6. Training the adults and systems around children so that they can support and reinforce the prevention program;
7. A collective effort by the entire community to influence social policy away from attitudes and strategies that perpetuate the use and abuse of alcohol and other substances, and toward attitudes and strategies that result in healthy lifestyles.

Controlled Substance- is defined as any drug, or substance, for which there are applicable laws and penalties for use, and or possession, in New York State.

Designer Drug - A designer drug is an analog to a known illegal drug. Since illegal drugs are defined in terms of their chemical formulas, underground chemists may modify the molecular structure of an illegal drug to produce a chemically similar, legal substance known as a designer drug. These drugs can be several hundred times stronger than the drugs they are designed to imitate, with very serious consequences, including brain damage from as little as one dose.

Drug Paraphernalia - Drug paraphernalia includes, but is not limited to the following objects:

1. Hypodermic syringes, needles, or similar objects used or designed to inject substances into the human body; and
2. Pipes or other objects used or designed to ingest, inhale, or otherwise introduce into the human body marijuana, cocaine, hashish, hashish oil, or other substances.

Look-Alike - Look-alike drugs are drugs manufactured to appear identical to prescription drugs in size, shape, color, and lettering, but which actually contain another compound. An example of this is the sale of pills through the mail that appear to be prescription amphetamines, but are actually caffeine.

School Grounds - School grounds include all property owned by the school district, such as school buildings and grounds, as well as school buses. Hence, any event occurring on a school bus, or at any function off school grounds while representing the school district or while on a school sponsored trip or event, will be considered to have occurred on school grounds.

Self-Help Group - A self-help group is a group of individuals with direct personal experience of a common problem who come together to share their experiences and to lend the group's strength and support to one another.

Substances - Substances are any chemicals when introduced into the human body produce a biological, psychological, or sociological change.

Superintendent - Superintendent of Broadalbin-Perth Central School District

Tobacco - includes cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, chewing tobacco, snuff, and any other product made from the tobacco plant.

Treatment - Treatment is the implementation of a professionally designed and supervised plan of services to an individual designed to achieve his or her discharge from in-patient or out-patient care at the earliest possible time consistent with clinical goals.

CODE OF CONDUCT-SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY

ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES FOR STUDENTS

VIOLATION	RANGE OF PENALTIES
Use and/or possession of tobacco products	Penalties range from in-school suspension to out of school suspension. Students will be referred to the Smoking Cessation Program , offered by the District.
Suspicion of Abuse of a Controlled Substance or Alcohol	The Principal shall notify the parents, verbally, if there are reasonable grounds for suspicion of abuse by a student. The initial contact shall not be documented in writing, but alternatives, and potential solutions, shall be provided to the parents
Under the influence of a Controlled Substance or Alcohol	Any student under the influence of a controlled substance or alcohol, shall be suspended from school for a period of five (5) days. In addition, specifically with a controlled substance incident, the student will be referred to the Superintendent for a hearing, whereupon a long-term suspension may be imposed. Law enforcement agencies shall be notified if a crime has taken place. Finally, parents shall be informed of community and school resources where

	counseling services may be secured for the student.
Possession, Distribution or Sale of a Controlled Substance	Any student discovered in possession of, selling or distributing Controlled Substances shall be suspended from school for a period of five (5) days and referred to the Superintendent for a formal disciplinary hearing. Law enforcement agencies shall be notified for further action.
Student Self Referral	When a student self-refers himself/herself for substance abuse counseling, the administrative staff shall make all of the appropriate resources of the district and outside agencies available to the students. Parents must be notified.
Long-Term Suspensions	When students are suspended tutoring services must be provided according to state and local guidelines

ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES FOR EMPLOYEES

VIOLATION	PENALTIES
Possession or Use of a Controlled Substance or Alcohol	Any employee found in possession of or under the influence of a controlled substance or alcohol on school grounds and/or in the performance of his/her duties shall be subject to disciplinary procedures in accordance with current contractual agreements and applicable law.
Distributing or Selling Controlled Substances or Alcohol on School Grounds	Reasonable grounds for suspicion of distributing or selling controlled substances or alcohol will be referred to the Superintendent for investigation. Law enforcement agencies shall be notified if the facts discovered during the investigation warrants. Legal advice shall be sought regarding disciplinary action and discipline shall be administered in accordance with current contractual agreements and applicable law.