

## **STUDENT ALCOHOL / DRUG OR SOLVENT USE**

### **Background**

Student use of alcohol and non-prescription drugs is detrimental to the learning process and is therefore prohibited. Student abuse of solvents has a damaging effect on the normal development, well-being, and academic performance of students.

The Superintendent expects schools to have a student education program which deals with the effects on the individual and on society of alcohol/drug use and abuse.

The Division prohibits the possession and/or consumption of alcohol or non-prescription drugs on Division premises.

### **Procedures**

1. Principals will annually inform, in writing, all students, parents and staff members of the administrative procedure on alcohol and drug use by students.

### **DISCIPLINARY INTERVENTION:**

2. Students who are suspected of being under the influence of alcohol or non-prescription drugs while in attendance at school or a school sponsored activity shall be immediately reported to the Principal. The Principal shall suspend the student, record the incident, and advise the parent and Superintendent, in writing, of the incident and of the actions taken.
3. Students observed in possession of alcohol or non-prescription drugs while in attendance at school or a school sponsored activity shall be immediately reported to the Principal. The Principal shall suspend the student, record the incident, and advise the parent and Superintendent, in writing, of the incident and actions taken.
4. A student observed in the act of providing alcohol or non-prescription drugs to another student shall be reported immediately to the Principal. The Principal shall suspend the student and recommend to the Superintendent that the student be expelled. The incident shall be recorded and the parent and the Superintendent shall be advised, in writing, of the incident and the actions taken and/or recommended.
5. In all situations involving student alcohol and non-prescription drug abuse, the staff shall be cognizant of the Criminal Code of Canada. The local police authorities and/or school resource officer shall be notified and asked to become involved in alcohol/drug incidents as warranted and/or required by law.
6. Students whose behaviour during alcohol/non-prescription drug related incidents becomes abusive or students who are repeat offenders under this procedure are subject to more stringent disciplinary action.

### **CRISIS INTERVENTION:**

7. Immediate adult intervention with students is merited whenever the behaviour of a student jeopardizes their own health, safety, or welfare, or the health, safety, or welfare of other students or staff. Should a student demonstrate such behaviour, the following actions shall be taken:

- 7.1 The staff member involved will secure whatever help is needed to provide first aid and to ensure the well-being of those present;
- 7.2 Parents shall be contacted immediately and advised of the situation; and
- 7.3 Arrangements shall be made to transfer the student to a medical facility.

**INTERVENTION STRATEGY:**

8. The Division intervention strategy is aimed at eliminating drug, alcohol, and solvent abuse by students. In this endeavour, schools shall establish and maintain an intervention, referral, and aftercare program.

**PREVENTION PROGRAM:**

9. Principals must ensure that a comprehensive drug and alcohol prevention program is maintained at the school level.
  - 9.1 Instructional programs should assist students in making responsible decisions about alcohol, drugs, and solvents (including tobacco products).
  - 9.2 Staff shall be inserviced on identification of drug related student behaviours.
  - 9.3 Guidance and counselling programs on alcohol, drug or solvent abuse shall be made available for students and parents or guardians.
  - 9.4 Students shall be provided with an opportunity for self-referral as part of the prevention or intervention alcohol, and drug program.
  - 9.5 Community agencies (like AADAC) have a major responsibility for providing counselling and rehabilitative programs for those who abuse alcohol, solvents, and drugs. Their involvement in prevention programs shall be solicited.

Reference: Section 60, 61, School Act

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