

STUDENTS – ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

DISCIPLINE – Substance Abuse

The use, possession, and/or delivery of alcoholic beverages, cannabis, or any other controlled substance (drugs, drug paraphernalia, look-alikes) are forbidden. Subject to the following exceptions, this policy will be in effect on a continuous basis during the school term and during those dates outside the school term when students are actually participating in extracurricular activities. This policy will not be in effect during after-school hours, weekends, vacation breaks and holidays unless the violation occurs on ROE property.

To facilitate implementation of this policy, the following terms are defined:

Under the Influence: Any student who has consumed any amount of alcohol, cannabis, or controlled substances other than as prescribed by a physician, or any other intoxicating substance will be subject to disciplinary action. Consumption occurring during or prior to coming to school or at school-related activities will be considered under the influence. Two adult authorized ROE school personnel will make the determination, and the final decision to discipline will rest with the administration.

Possession: Any student who has possession or control of any alcoholic beverage, cannabis, any controlled substance other than as prescribed by a physician for that individual, any other intoxicating substance, any drug paraphernalia, or any “look-alike” will be subject to disciplinary action. A substance or item need not be in a student’s immediate presence to be in his/her possession or control.

Delivery: Any student who delivers, receives delivery of, or attempts to deliver or receive delivery of any alcoholic beverage, cannabis, any controlled substance, any other intoxicating substance, any drug paraphernalia, or look-alike will be subject to disciplinary action. Delivery means a transfer of possession or control to another person whether or not the substance or item is in that person’s immediate presence. Delivery includes, but is not limited to, any gift, exchange, sale or other transfer with or without payment or other consideration.

Look-alikes: A “look-alike substance” is a substance, which by dosage unit appearance, including color, shape, size, container and/or packaging, markings, or by representation made, would lead a reasonable person to believe that the substance is an alcoholic beverage, cannabis, or a controlled substance.

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Drug Paraphernalia: “Drug paraphernalia” means all equipment, products and materials of any kind that are peculiar to, marketed for use in packaging, repackaging, storing, containing, concealing, injecting, ingesting, inhaling, or otherwise introducing into the human body, cannabis, or any controlled substance other than as prescribed by a physician.

Students who believe they have a substance abuse problem are encouraged to seek help by voluntarily contacting the social worker, a counselor, or member of the school’s administration. No penalty will be assessed for voluntary admission to drug or alcohol recovery programs while in school. Voluntary admission by a student is encouraged. However, should the student be found in violation of this policy after seeking help, the provisions of the policy will apply. Participation in a recognized substance abuse program is valuable for the student but cannot be used to escape responsibility for sanctions under this policy.

Investigation, Sanctions, and Review Process

The appropriate building administrator will begin an immediate, thorough investigation of the alleged violation. School staff, contracted employees, and law enforcement officials who were present on site will provide evidence used to substantiate a violation. Students may be interviewed in an investigation but will not be required to provide information on other students if they do not wish to do so.

The designated administrator will confer with the student and parents/legal guardian as part of the investigation of the alleged violation.

If the evidence substantiates the claim that a violation of this policy has occurred, the appropriate penalties will be issued at that time. The administrator will notify, in writing, the student and the parents/legal guardian of the decision.

Review Process

The review process begins with the student or parent requesting a face-to-face review with the building administrator within five (5) days after receiving written notification of the suspension/disciplinary action. If the suspension is upheld in the building administrator’s review, the student and/or parents/legal guardian have the right to a suspension hearing with the Director of Alternative Education. If the disciplinary action

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is upheld by the Director of Alternative Education, a student or his/her parents/legal guardian may request a final appeal of the decision of the Director of Alternative Education by filing a written request within ten (10) school days with the Regional Superintendent of Schools.

Approved: 07/01/01