

ALCOHOL USE/DRUG ABUSE/CHEMICAL ABUSE BY STUDENTS
(Narcotics, Drugs, Alcoholic Beverages, and Controlled Substances)

BOARD POLICY

The following document outlines policy on student abuse of psycho-active or mood-altering chemicals in the school district. This policy is in effect on property owned, leased, or maintained by West Central School District, at all school sanctioned activities on and off campus, and in vehicles parked on school property.

Student and parent members of the school community are expected to be aware of and understand these policies and comply with them. A copy of the policy will be provided to all students and parents through our student handbooks.

A student shall not possess, use, transfer, conceal, sell, attempt to sell, deliver, nor be under the influence of narcotics, drugs, or alcohol, materials/substance represented to be a drug or controlled substance, or chemical substances which affect psychological functions or affect the educational system of the school. Students shall not engage in drug use/abuse nor possess paraphernalia specific to the use of illegal drugs.

Students who use prescription drugs authorized by a licensed physician do not violate this policy if the students conform to the prescription and appropriate school policies.

The building principal or designee may use a Passive Alcohol Sensor (PAS) if there is reasonable suspicion of alcohol consumption or possession. The PAS can passively detect breath alcohol, or it can actively test for alcohol when the student blows into the intake port or through a mouthpiece. The PAS can also detect alcohol in containers or enclosed spaces such as rooms, cars, or lockers.

If the PAS indicates probable consumption, the student will be asked to take a breathalyzer test given by a law enforcement official to refute or confirm alcohol consumption.

VIOLATIONS

The following procedures will be used in dealing with violations of this policy.

A. First Offense:

1. The administration will notify the parents/guardians by phone.
2. The administration will suspend the student for ten (10) days in compliance with student due process procedures.
3. The administration will notify the parents/guardians in writing of the suspension.
4. The administration will notify law enforcement authorities.

The school district strongly recommends that students with chemical abuse problems seek professional evaluation and treatment from a trained chemical dependency counselor or a licensed physician trained in chemical dependency. A student who agrees to seek chemical dependency evaluation and treatment may have his/her suspension commuted to seven (7) days. The administration will provide a list of agencies/professionals who can do the assessment and provide treatment. Fees for this assessment and treatment are the responsibility of the student and family. Upon receipt of appropriate authorization, the agency or professional will notify the school administration that the student is being evaluated and complying with the treatment process.

B. Second and Subsequent Offenses:

1. The administration will notify the parents/guardians.
2. The administration will notify law enforcement authorities.
3. The student will be given a long term suspension and a recommendation will be made to the board of education for expulsion from school for the remainder of the school year unless the following procedure is followed:
 - a. The student must agree to be evaluated and treated by a trained chemical dependency counselor or a licensed physician trained in chemical dependency.
 - b. When the administration is notified by the appropriate agency or professional that the student has accepted evaluation and treatment, the recommendation for expulsion may be commuted. Fees for the assessment and treatment are the responsibility of the student and family.
4. The administration will notify the parents/guardians in writing of the suspension.

C. Supplying/Distributing or selling chemical (drugs/alcohol) or material represented to be a controlled substance.

1. The student will be suspended and a recommendation will be made to the board of education for expulsion from school.
2. The administration will notify the parents/guardians in writing of the suspension.
3. The administration will notify local law enforcement authorities.
4. A hearing will be conducted by the board of education pursuant to due process rules for expulsion. Expulsion may be recommended by the administration.

Pupils who visibly appear to be impaired from using illegal drugs or alcohol will be referred to the building administrator. The building administrator will contact parents/guardians and if emergency treatment is warranted, emergency medical personnel will be called. Following the handling of any medical emergency, the student will be subject to any punishment according to this policy.

A biennial review of the School district program will be made:

1. To determine the program's effectiveness and implement changes to the programs if they are needed.
2. To insure that disciplinary sanctions are consistently enforced.

Adopted: October 8, 1990

Amended: January, 1999\

Legal reference: Public law 101-226

