

Students

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

5131.6

It is the policy of the Fairfield Public Schools to prevent and prohibit the possession, use, and/or distribution of any drug, alcohol, or drug paraphernalia on school property, at school-sponsored events, on school buses, and en route to and from school by any mode of travel.

Violations of this policy, including possession, use, distribution of any drug or drug paraphernalia, and being under the influence of any drug on school property or at any school-sponsored event, shall be dealt with in accord with the procedures developed by the administration. The consequences of such violations may ultimately result in expulsion from school.

Recognizing that drug use and abuse may be indicative of serious, underlying problems, every effort shall be made to offer a student help and assistance, including early identification, referral for treatment, and after care support. Disciplinary procedures will be administered with the best interests of the student, school population, and community in mind.

Drug and alcohol awareness, education, and prevention programs for students shall be adopted and maintained, and shall teach that the use of drugs (except for current prescribed medication(s)) and the unlawful use and possession of alcohol are wrong and harmful. The student programs shall address the legal, social, and health consequences of drug and alcohol use, and provide information about effective techniques for resisting peer pressure to use controlled drugs or alcohol.

The programs will also explain the penalties that may be imposed on students for drug and alcohol abuse violations occurring on or off school grounds. Counseling and rehabilitation programs, as described in the Administrative Regulations, shall be provided to students.

The District will review this program biennially to determine its effectiveness, to implement changes when needed, and to ensure that the sanctions set forth in the Administrative Regulations are consistently enforced.

Due consideration will be given to the rights of students:

- questioning of a student on school premises will take place only in the presence of a school building administrator and/or dean;
- a student's right to remain silent or to speak through an attorney or parent or guardian may not be abridged; and
- a school building administrator and/or dean will maintain a record of all proceedings under this policy, which shall be available to the student.

Adopted 8/27/2004
Revised and Adopted 1/12/2021