

STUDENT SUBSTANCE ABUSE

A student shall not possess, use, transmit, sell, give, manufacture, be in the presence of, or be under the influence of any unlawful drug on the school grounds or at any school-sponsored activity on or off school premises.

For the purpose of this policy, an unlawful drug is defined as alcohol, tobacco, abused or misused prescription drugs/commercial products (e.g. inhalants) (over-the-counter medication) illicit drugs, or any other illegal substance.

Policy Statement:

This policy is based on the conviction that school should be a drug free environment. Effective identification of substance abuse problems begins with consistent consequences incurred for violations of the school's chemical use policy. Therefore, violations of the substance abuse policy incur simultaneous disciplinary action and referral to the student assistance program, emphasizing both our adherence to the code of conduct, the interscholastic athletic code, and our commitment to help troubled students.

Medications which a student has on prescription and carries onto school property for ingestion as prescribed by a doctor will be kept in the nurse or Principal's office.

If drug use or possession is suspected, the following procedure will be followed:

- A. Upon establishing suspicion that a student is engaged in the use of drugs, the staff or faculty member is to notify the office and request that an administrator or school official come to the location immediately. The treatment of and transfer of the student from the classroom or other locale should be handled as tactfully as possible. Faculty, staff member, or school official initiating this process should follow up in a timely manner, listing/detailing the observed behaviors/indicators which aroused suspicion.
- B. Student is then escorted to the office for further evaluation.
- C. If the administrator determines that a search is needed, the search procedure should be handled as follows:
 1. **Personal Search**: The Principal or designee should secure from the student the known or suspected contraband. The search procedure should be conducted in accordance with School Board Policy JIH
 2. **Lockers, Desks, etc.**: When there seems to be reasonable cause to believe that a locker or desk should be searched for contraband, the search should be conducted in accordance with School Board Policy JIH
 3. **Automobiles**: When there seems to be reasonable cause to believe that an automobile should be searched for contraband, the search should be conducted in accordance with School Board Policy JIH
- D. Student will be questioned by the Principal or his/her designee and one other staff member to determine admission or denial or guilt or involvement.
- E. School Resource Officer or other certified personnel will then assess the student for presence of substantial indicator or substance abuse. (This assessment may include a field sobriety test, HGNA, or other means.)

- F. Upon establishing support for original suspicions of substance use, the parent/guardian is contacted and notified of the offense.
- G. The student will participate in a short-term substance abuse educational program. Confirmation to the school will be needed within three days of the offense that the student will be entering the substance abuse program.
- H. The student will undergo an informal assessment which will be conducted by a staff assessment team which may consist of a representative of the Administration, a Guidance Counselor, and /or a substance abuse resource person.
- I. If deemed appropriate by the staff assessment team, the student may be required to undergo a formal assessment to be conducted by a psychologist or other person qualified to conduct such an assessment. (This will be at the expense of the parents/guardian).
- J. The student will participate in a program designed to respond to the individual student's problem/degree of substance abuse. Such a program may include a related educational, preventative program, counseling by a specialist, and/or therapy. Parents/guardians will be financially responsible for such a program. The student and parents will also be made aware of the available support systems within the school and community.
- K. Any student found selling, possessing, distributing, or giving away unlawful substances will be turned over to police authorities immediately and suspended from school at once pending School Board action.
- L. The parent/guardian may, if they wish, have the students blood/urine tested (at the school's expense, if necessary) to confirm or refute suspected drug use. The school *will* receive a copy of any tests paid for by the school.

Upon confirmation of drug use through blood/urine testing OR upon refusal to submit to testing the student will be suspended for five days. Prior to returning to classes, a meeting with family, the student, and SAP (Student Assistance Person) will be arranged to determine the next steps.

The general criterion to be used by the Principal/Assistant Principal in administering these guidelines shall be in the best interests of the total school population and the maintenance of the educational environment for Lin-Wood Public School.

Legal Reference:

RSA 571-C:2, Intoxicating Beverages at Interscholastic Athletic Contests

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