

STUDENT ALCOHOL & OTHER DRUG USE/ABUSE

This policy pertains to alcohol and other drug use/abuse. Tobacco use is defined in a separate policy (see ABBA).

Philosophy

The Starkweather Public School shall strive to provide a learning environment that is safe, drug free, and conducive to learning. This policy is designed to help eradicate the influence of drugs and alcohol within the school environment, promote awareness and health, and protect students in the school environment by imposing consequences for drug and alcohol related violations.

Definitions

This policy defines the following:

- *Alcohol* – See Prohibited Substances.
- *Drug* – See Prohibited Substances.
- *Possession* shall mean:
 - a. Actual physical possession of the alcohol or drug while on school property;
 - b. Use or consumption of the alcohol or drug while on school property;
 - c. In the student's locker, car, handbag, backpack, or other belongings while on school property; or
 - d. Appearance by a student on school property after having consumed or ingested alcohol or a drug that is noticeable by breath odor, speech alterations, unsteadiness of gait or posture, or like symptoms of chemical intoxication.
- *Use* shall mean that a student is reasonably known to have ingested, injected, inhaled or otherwise taken into the body a prohibited substance, or is reasonably found to be under the influence of such a substance.
- *School property* is defined in NDCC 15.1-19-10(6)(b) as all land within the perimeter of the school site and all school buildings, structures, facilities, and school vehicles, whether owned or leased by a school district, and the site of any school-sponsored event or activity.

Prohibited Substances

Prohibited substances include, but are not limited to:

1. Alcohol, powdered alcohol, or any alcoholic beverage as defined in NDCC 5-01-01;
2. Any controlled substance or dangerous drug as defined by NDCC Sections 19-03.1-05 through 19-03.1-13 and 19-03.1-26 (paraphernalia) or as defined by Section 812, Schedules I-V, of Title 21, United States Code, Section 801, et seq., including but not limited to marijuana, any narcotic drug, any hallucinogen, any stimulant or depressant, and all other illicit drugs;
3. Any glue, aerosol paint, or any other chemical substance used for inhalation;
4. Any prescription or non-prescription drug, medicine, vitamin or other chemical including, but not limited to aspirin, other pain relievers, stimulants, diet pills, multiple or other type vitamins, pep pills, "no-doze" pills, cough medicines and

syrops, cold medicines, laxatives, stomach or digestive remedies, depressants, sports or muscle-building supplements, and sleeping pills not administered and/or taken with appropriate consent and authorization from parents, school administration, and, if applicable, a health care provider.

Prohibited Activities

It shall be against school policy for any student to:

1. Sell, deliver, or give, or attempt to sell, deliver, or give to any person any of the substances listed in this policy or sell, deliver, or give or attempt to sell, deliver, or give to any person substances the student represents or believes to be a substance(s) listed in this policy.
2. Possess, procure, purchase, or receive or to attempt to possess, procure, purchase, or receive the substances listed in this policy, or what is represented by or to the student to be any of the substances listed in this policy, or what the student believes is any of the substances listed in this policy.
3. Be under the influence of (legal intoxication not required), use, consume, or attempt to use or consume the substances listed in this policy or what is represented by or to the student to be any of the substances listed in this policy or what the student believes is any of the substances listed in this policy.
4. Knowingly or intentionally aiding or abetting in any of the above activities.

This policy applies to any student who is on school property, or whose off-campus conduct is reasonably predicted to substantially disrupt the operations of the District, district safety, or welfare of students or employees.

Reporting Violations

A student or staff member that has reason to believe that a student has violated this policy shall notify a school official (i.e., a teacher or administrator if the reporter is a student; a school administrator if the reporter is a district staff member). Except in limited circumstances under law,¹ a teacher is required to report known or suspected violations of this policy to the school principal and/or Superintendent.

Violation

When a principal/Superintendent has reasonable suspicion that a student has violated this policy, they may search the student in accordance with the district's policy on searches of students' person or personal property.

Such searches shall not include referral for mandatory alcohol/drug testing.

Disciplinary sanctions will be imposed on, and additional actions may be taken (as listed below) in response to, any violation of this policy. These sanctions may include suspension or expulsion, intervention (as described below), and notification of proper authorities for prosecution. Prohibited substances will be confiscated and illegal substances will be turned over to law enforcement authorities.

¹ When a teacher/principal participates in a juvenile court program and receives confidential information about a student.

Intervention

It is acknowledged that the public school has neither the authority nor the responsibility to make medical or health determinations regarding chemical dependency; however, when observed behavior indicates that a problem exists that may affect the student's ability to learn or the educational climate of the school, the school has a right and a responsibility to refer the student for a formal chemical dependency diagnosis. The Superintendent shall develop a procedure for chemical dependency identification and referral for treatment.

Referral for treatment shall be a constructive not punitive action; however, use of the treatment program shall not override or prohibit the District from taking disciplinary action for violations of this policy.

The school will make a reasonable effort to cooperate with a therapy program if one is recommended for the student. The Board believes that if a student is involved in a chemical dependency program and is successfully addressing their harmful involvement with chemicals, they may be allowed to continue in the regular school setting and continue to participate in any extracurricular program unless participation is in conflict with rules and regulations set forth by the Board, the [North Dakota High School Activities Association](#), and/or the student has been suspended or expelled as a result of a district policy violation.

The school may, through the use of available resources, provide follow-up counseling and supportive assistance to those students who return after successfully completing a therapeutic regimen, realizing that the student may need assistance in dealing with other environmental factors beyond the school's control which may remain unchanged.

Confidentiality

The District shall maintain the confidentiality of students referred for counseling and chemical dependency treatment in accordance with the district's policy on counseling records and other applicable law.

Education

The District will teach about drugs and alcohol in an age appropriate developmentally based education and prevention program in every grade in accordance with law. This program will include information about drug and alcohol counseling and rehabilitation programs available to the students.

In addition, the District will conduct staff orientation and training on drug and alcohol prevention, including a periodic overview of this policy and its procedures for implementation. The District will also provide parent and community education on the topic of drug and alcohol prevention.

Policy Implementation

Student handbooks shall contain a statement of sanctions required concerning the possession, use, or distribution of drugs and/or alcohol.

The Starkweather Public School will review this policy and its implementation periodically to ensure disciplinary sanctions are consistently applied and to determine the effectiveness of the program for the prevention of alcohol and other drug use/abuse.

REQUIRED

Descriptor Code: FFA

Each building administrator and/or department manager will conduct inservice training sessions for school district employees, which will include a review of this policy and procedures for implementation thereof. In the event an employee is unable to attend such inservice sessions, the administrator will cause this policy to be individually reviewed with such employee.

The building administrator and/or department manager will maintain a list of all employees with whom this policy has been reviewed, whether individually or through inservice training, along with the dates of such review or training.

In addition, student handbooks will be used to inform students that the use of alcohol and other drugs is wrong and harmful and is not permissible. Students, employees and parents will be given a copy of the standards of conduct and the statement of sanctions required concerning the possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol. Compliance with these standards of conduct is mandatory. The handbook will include a form for parents to sign and return indicating that the information in the handbook has been received and read by the student and the parents. Each principal will maintain a file of returned forms.

Complementing NDSBA Templates (may contain items not adopted by the Board)

- ABBA, Tobacco Free School & Workplace
- FFA-AR, Alcohol & Other Drug Intervention Procedure
- FFE, Extracurricular Participation Requirements
- FFK, Suspension & Expulsion
- FFK-BR, Suspension & Expulsion Regulations
- FGCB, Searches of Students & Students' Personal Property
- FGDB, Student Handbooks

End of Starkweather Public School Policy FFA..... Adopted: April 2024