Existing Policy 5131.6, adopted 12/20/21, appropriate as written with legislative updates.

Students

Drugs. Alcohol, and Tobacco

Drugs and Alcohol

For purposes of this policy, "drugs" are defined as any substance other than food or water that is intended to be taken or administered (ingested, injected, applied, implanted, inhaled, etc.) for the purpose of altering, sustaining, or controlling the recipient's physical, mental, or emotional state. Drugs may include, but not be limited to, alcoholic beverages; controlled substances such as marijuana (cannabis), hallucinogens, cocaine, barbiturates, amphetamines, narcotics and non-authorized prescription drugs. For purposes of this policy, "controlled substances" shall include all controlled substances prohibited by federal and State law, look-alike drugs, alcoholic beverages, anabolic steroids, drug paraphernalia, any volatile solvents or inhalants, such as but not limited to glue and aerosol products, and prescription or patent drugs, except those for which permission for use in school has been granted pursuant to Board policy. For purposes of this policy, "under the influence" shall include any consumption or ingestion of controlled substances by a student.

The Board of Education prohibits student possession, use, and/or distribution of any drugs, alcohol or drug paraphernalia or being under the influence of any drug or alcohol. Any student found to be violating this student conduct policy will be dealt with in accordance with the regulations set by the District. The consequences of such violations may result in expulsion from school and/or criminal prosecution at any time, including in any school building, on any vehicle provided or contracted by the District, on any school grounds, or during any District-/school-sponsored activity.

Recognizing the potential of each student and that drug or alcohol abuse and dependency can seriously impair a student's ability to learn, it is the policy of the District to take positive actions to prevent drug and alcohol abuse. These actions will be through education, early intervention, parental involvement, medical and/or assessment referral, and police referral in the handling of incidents in the schools involving the possession, sale, and/or use of behavior-affecting substances.

School properties may be inspected by school authorities in the interest of maintenance, health and safety. Inspections for the location of drugs, narcotics, liquor, weapons, poisons and missing properties are matters relating to health and safety and may be regarded as reasonable purposes for inspection by school personnel.

Disciplinary procedures will be administered with the best interests of the student, school population and community in mind as the result of a team decision. Personal privacy rights of students shall be protected as provided by law. Disciplinary action taken against a student for the use, sale, or possession of marijuana (cannabis) on school premises or at any District-/school-sponsored activity shall not result in any discipline, punishment, or sanction greater than that which a student would face for the use, sale, or possession of alcohol.

Tobacco

Tobacco includes, but is not limited to cigarettes, cigars, snuff, smoking tobacco, smokeless tobacco, nicotine, nicotine delivering systems or vapor product, chemicals or devices that produce the same flavor or physical effect of nicotine substances and any other tobacco or nicotine innovations.

For purposes of this policy, "electronic nicotine delivery system" is defined as an electronic device that may be used to simulate smoking in the delivery of nicotine, cannabis, or other substance to a person inhaling from the device, and includes, but is not limited to, an electronic cigarette, electronic cigar, electronic cigarillo, electronic pipe, or electronic hookah and any related device and any cartridge or other component of such device.

For purposes of this policy, "vapor product" is defined as any product that employs a heating element, power source, electronic circuit, or other electronic, chemical, or mechanical means, regardless of shape or size, to produce a vapor that may or may not include nicotine or cannabis that is inhaled by the user of such product.

There shall be no smoking or any other unauthorized use or possession of tobacco, tobacco products, including chewing tobacco or tobacco paraphernalia, electronic nicotine delivery systems, or vapor products by students in any school building, on any vehicle provided or contracted by the District, on any school grounds, or during any District-/school-sponsored activity at any time. Disciplinary action taken against a student for the use, sale, or possession of marijuana (cannabis) on school premises or at any District-/school-sponsored activity shall not result in any discipline, punishment, or sanction greater than that which a student would face for the use, sale, or possession of alcohol.

(cf. 5114 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)
(cf. 5131 – Conduct)
(cf. 5141.21 - Administering Medication)
(cf. 5144 – Discipline/Punishment)
6164.11 – Drugs, Alcohol, Tobacco)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

1-21b Smoking prohibited in certain places

10-19 Teaching about alcohol, nicotine or tobacco, drugs and acquired immune deficiency syndrome. Training of personnel.

10-154a Professional communications between teacher or nurse and student. Surrender or physical evidence obtained from students.

10-220b Policy statement on drugs.

10-221(d) Board of Education to prescribe rules policies and procedures re sale or possession of alcohol or controlled drugs (as amended by P.A. 21-1 June Special Session, Section 19).

21a-240 Definitions of dependency producing drugs.

21a-240(8) Definitions "Controlled Drugs," dependency producing drugs.

21a-240(9) Definitions "controlled substance."

21a-243 Regulation re schedules of controlled substances.

21a-408 et. Seq. Palliative Uses of Marijuana (as amended by P.A. 16-23).

53-198 Smoking in motor buses, railroad cards and school buses.

P.A. 11-73 An Act regulating the sale and Possession of synthetic Marijuana and salvia Divinorum.

P.A. 12-55 An Act concerning the Palliative Use of Marijuana.

P.A. 16-23 an Act Concerning the Palliative Use of Marijuana.

P.A. 14-76 An Act Concerning the Governor's Recommendations Regarding Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems and Youth Smoking Prevention.

P.A. 15-206 An Act Regulating Electronic nicotine Delivery Systems and vapor Products.

P.A. 21-1 (June Special Session) An Act Concerning Responsible and Equitable Regulation of Adult-use Cannabis).

Federal Regulation 34 CFR Part *5 Drug-free Schools & Communities Act

20 U.S.C. Section 7181 et. Seq., No Child Left Behind Act.

New Jersey v T.L.O, 469 U.S. 325 (1985)

Veronia School District 47J v. Acton, 515 U.S. 646

(1995) Board of Education of Independent School District No. 92 of Pottawatomie Count y v. Earls 01-3332 U.S. (2002).

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WOODBRIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Woodbridge, Connecticut