

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION

DRUG AND ALCOHOL USE BY STUDENTS

PURPOSE:

To set forth the Administrative Regulations governing the implementation of the School Committee Policy regarding the use and/or possession of drugs and alcohol by students on school property and/or at school sponsored and/or authorized functions.

EXPECTATIONS:

I. PREVENTION

The North Kingstown School Department will provide for a drug and alcohol prevention program to promote wellness and healthy lifestyles. To accomplish this, a program will be implemented to instill respect for a healthy mind and body. Students will learn how the body functions, how personal habits contribute to good health, and how drugs affect the body.

The prevention program will focus on classroom instruction, guidance and counseling, and school climate. Involvement of parents and other community members is essential for the success of district prevention activities.

A. Instruction Program

1. All schools, elementary and secondary, will have instructional programs, which assist students in making responsible decisions about the use of alcohol and drugs. Current and accurate information about alcohol and drugs and their effects upon the body is only one component of an instructional prevention program. Other components include instruction and skill development related to self-esteem, goal setting, decision-making, understanding feelings, conflict management and problem solving, refusal skills, and the development of communication skills.

Major responsibility for providing instruction about the prevention of drug and alcohol use/abuse will be provided by education programs following specific objectives to be covered in grades K-12. The curriculum will be consistently reviewed, evaluated and updated in accordance with the curriculum cycle. It is the responsibility of the

building principal/designee to monitor the implementation of the instructional program.

Other areas of the curriculum will reinforce the prevention concepts taught in the health program.

2. All staff will be provided information and/or training in prevention strategies. The health education staff will be trained in any new curriculum. Instructional materials will be available for each school to implement the program.

B. Guidance, Counseling, and School Nurse/Teachers

Guidance, counseling personnel and school nurse/teachers will assist teachers with the implementation of classroom drug and alcohol prevention activities.

Guidance counselors, school nurse/teachers, and Student Assistance Counselors will work with referred students, individually and in small groups to supplement drug and alcohol prevention instruction and skill development. Guidance counselors, school nurse/teachers, and Student Assistance Counselors will also work with staff and parents to maximize the prevention efforts of the school.

C. School Climate

Prevention efforts will emphasize effective communication throughout all levels of the educational environment. Communication requires a receptive audience. Maintaining such a receptive audience is dependent upon maintaining a positive and healthy school environment that daily encourages the student's positive self-concept; the student's enthusiasm for learning; outlets for student self-development and creativity which acknowledge individual skills, needs, and interests; responsible student decision making and problem solving; and recognition of special needs of high risk students or families experiencing undue stress.

Building level prevention activities will be initiated under the leadership of the building administrator and supported by school nurse/teachers, staff, students and parents. Community organizations will be encouraged to support school prevention activities.

D. Family and Community

The successful prevention of harmful chemical involvement must include a plan to ensure that parents and the community are aware and knowledgeable of programs and services available to them and their

children. Parents and community members will be actively involved in the community/school partnership.

II. INTERVENTION

The North Kingstown School Department's intervention strategy shall be aimed at eliminating drug and alcohol use/abuse by students. In this endeavor, schools will:

- A. Establish and Maintain a Student Assistant Program which utilizes the student assistance model. The student assistance person will:
 - 1. Assess
 - 2. Develop goals
 - 3. Make recommendations for needed services for referred students.

- B. The student assistance professionals will have specialized training in:
 - 1. Confidentiality procedures
 - 2. Alcohol and drug abuse and dependency
 - 3. Intervention strategies

- C. Ongoing in-service will be provided for faculty and staff focusing upon those characteristics of a comprehensive intervention program that is crucial for successful implementation.

III. DISCIPLINE

Possession of drug related paraphernalia or use, possession, or under the influence of alcohol and/or other illicit drugs on school property or at any school-sponsored activity.

The Assistant Principals will:

- a. Suspend the student from school a minimum of five (5) days. Referral to the Superintendent of Schools for a pre-expulsion hearing.
- b. Notify appropriate law enforcement/juvenile agency.
- c. Notify student's parents/guardians and request an immediate conference with them.
- d. Refer the student to the Student Assistance Counselor or designated school official for a three session alcohol and other drug abuse assessment. The first appointment must be made before the five day suspension has ended. Parent/guardian may choose instead to go to a third party certified provider.
- e. Suspend the student from activities for thirty (30) consecutive days from participation in and attendance at any after-school activity or extra-

curricular activity scheduled outside of the regular school day, except after-school detention or extra academic help. This thirty (30) day penalty begins on the day it is administered and will continue through any school recess until completed.

If a student commits a second infraction during the same activity/season, he/she will be dismissed from the sport or activity for the remainder of the season or completion of the activity.

If the student commits a third infraction, he/she will be dismissed from extra-curricular activities for the remainder of the school year.

Procedures:

1. First offense, the building administrator shall:

- a. Verify suspicion as deemed necessary by site administrator.
- b. Notify appropriate law enforcement/juvenile agency.
- c. Notify parents/guardians of the student and request an immediate conference with them and the Principal.
- d. Suspend the student for violation of the school rules up to ten (10) school days, with notice that a pre-expulsion hearing recommendation is pending. Upon student's return to school, an assessment is to be completed by an approved third party at parent/guardian expense and the results made available to the Principal within ten (10) days, may be readmitted. The students and parents/guardians must consent to fulfill the recommendations of the evaluator and have necessary reports submitted to the Principal. If the student or parents/guardians refuse to agree to the evaluation and/or treatment (failure to do so may result in expulsion), a recommendation for expulsion may be implemented.
- e. Suspend the student from activities for thirty (30) calendar days, excluding vacations, from participation in and attendance at any after-school activity or extra-curricular activity scheduled outside the regular school day, except after-school detention or extra academic help.
- f. A pre-expulsion hearing will be required before the student is reinstated to school.
- g. A pre-expulsion hearing will be required before the student is reinstated to school.

2. Second offense and/or subsequent offenses

- a. The same procedures as set forth for a first offense will be followed except that, for a second offense, the Principal will recommend expulsion up to the full extent of the law.

- b. The District shall not recognize any second or subsequent offense, which occurs at least 36 months after a first or second offense, as a second or subsequent offense.

A. Make-up Work

It shall be the responsibility of the student to request assignments. The work must be presented to the teacher immediately upon return to school.

IV. **AFTERCARE**

- A. It is important that students returning to school from a community in-patient or out-patient treatment program be given aftercare support. Primary aftercare responsibility for students returning from a community treatment programs rests with the student, parent and community treatment program personnel.
- B. School staff, the student, parents and community treatment personnel *will* work cooperatively to facilitate the aftercare plan.

V. **SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES**

In cases where a non-student such as an adult parent, guardian or visitor to the school is suspected to be under the influence of an illicit or licit substance, that person will be reported to the local police.

In the case where an intoxicated person is to provide transportation to a student, it is the site administrator's discretion not to release the student to this person. The administrator shall make alternative safe transportation arrangements under the direction of the local law enforcement person for safe transportation of the student.

The administrator shall:

- a) Verify the suspicion as deemed necessary by site administrator.
- b) Notify appropriate law enforcement agents.

Issued: 3/3/75
Revised: 1/25/82; 10/23/02