

POLICY

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PERSONNEL

SUBJECT: MASSENA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT DRUG FREE ZONES

Introduction

The Massena Central School District operates in a drug free environment. Accordingly, students and staff shall choose a life style which enhances their minds and bodies, elevates their character and improves their standing in society rather than one in which alcohol, drugs and dangerous, debilitating controlled substances are used and/or abused.

The manufacture, distribution, sale use or possession of any of those controlled substances on or off school property, at school functions or going to or from school or school activities are specifically excluded by the school's standard for citizenship.

Students' Right to a Drug Free Environment

1. Students have the right to attend a school that is free of drugs, alcohol and violence.
2. Students have the right to go to school without being harassed by drug dealers.
3. Students have the right to drug education programs in our school to help them learn why and how to say "NO" to drugs.
4. If students already have problems with drugs and alcohol, they have the right to seek treatment and confidential counseling.
5. Students have the right to live in a community free of drugs, fear and crime.
6. Students have the right to grow up healthy and be the best they can be!

Policy

Under the Drug-Free School and Campuses Act (20 USC and 5145), the Massena Central School District declares its existing properties and property within 1,000 feet of the real property line comprising any such school as "Drug Free School Zones". And as set forth in local, state and federal laws, the Massena Central School District prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees in buildings, facilities, grounds or other property owned and/or controlled by the Massena Central School District.

In addition, the New York State Penal Law defines as a felony the criminal sale of drugs within any building, structure, athletic playing field, playground or land contained within the real property boundary line of the Massena School District properties, or within 1,000 feet of the real property line comprising any school in the Massena Central School District.

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PERSONNEL

SUBJECT: MASSENA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT DRUG FREE ZONES (Cont'd)

No unauthorized or illegal drugs and no unauthorized drug paraphernalia are allowed on such premises. Unauthorized and illegal drugs include but are not limited to alcohol, marijuana, cocaine and controlled substances. If a child must take a prescription drug, the parents or legal guardian must deliver the drugs to the school nurse for administration in accordance with Policy 7513 "Prescription Medication".

Any student or employee of the Massena Central School District who has violated this prohibition shall be subject to disciplinary action including, but not limited to, suspension, expulsion, termination of employment or referral for prosecution. Teachers and/or staff members will immediately report to the building administrator any infractions or suspected infraction of the policies listed within.

Background

What is a "Drug Free Zone"? A "Drug Free Zone" is any specific location in the community. These could be areas where children, teenagers or young adults congregate. Target areas are schools, parks, recreation areas and playgrounds.

Why Should We Adopt a "Drug Free Zone"? Our children are precious commodities. They are our future. We try to teach our children right from wrong in our daily routines. Having "Drug Free Zones" is just one more step in the right direction. It is also an attitude. We would like our children to demonstrate an attitude, a "Drug Free" attitude. Changing one's perspective of thinking is an excellent way of changing attitudes. What better way to move them in the right direction than to adopt a "Drug Free Zone" for our school district? The school district is only the beginning. Once "Drug Free Zones" are established within the Massena Central School District, we can then get the community involved and have the Village and Town of Massena and Town of Louisville, which are all part of the Massena Central School District, declared as one big "Drug Free Zone".

How Was the "Drug Free Zone" Determined? In establishing the "Drug Free Zones" within the Massena Central School District, the 1,000 foot radius as contained in Federal Criminal Law 20 and New York State Penal Law (220) was utilized as the criteria. New York State Penal Law defines as a felony the criminal sale of drugs within any building, structure, athletic playing field, playground or land contained within the real property boundary line of the Massena Central School District properties, or within 1,000 feet of the real property line comprising any school in the district.

School Law 16:54
Drug-Free School and Campuses Act
(20 USC 5145), (20 USC 3192(a)(8))
Penal Law (220)

Adopted: 9/22/97