

BOARD OF EDUCATION
POLICY
PUPILS

DRUGS, ALCOHOL, TOBACCO

The board recognizes that drug and alcohol abuse present a growing problem in society and is aware of the vital role played by the schools in the efforts of the community to control this problem. The board believes that an educational and therapeutic approach to the problem is more effective than one which is solely punitive in nature.

For purposes of this policy, "drugs" shall mean:

- A. All dangerous controlled substances as so designated and prohibited in New Jersey statutes; all chemicals which release toxic vapors as defined and prohibited in New Jersey statutes;
- B. All alcoholic beverages;
- C. Any prescription drug, except those for which permission for use in school has been granted pursuant to board policy.

The board prohibits the use, possession or distribution of any drug by pupils, staff or others on school property.

The chief school administrator shall be responsible for the district's efforts to:

- A. Be concerned with education and prevention in all areas of drug and alcohol use and abuse;
- B. Establish and maintain a realistic, meaningful drug and alcohol education program that shall be incorporated into the total educational process. Special attention shall be given to meeting the needs of pupils with drug or alcohol use problems;
- C. Establish and maintain an ongoing inservice drug and alcohol education program for all school personnel;
- D. Counsel pupils involved in drug/alcohol use;

DRUGS, ALCOHOL, TOBACCO (continued)

- E. Cooperate with local, state, federal and approved private agencies that are involved with pupil health and drugs or alcohol. The chief school administrator shall provide the board with a list of agencies recommended by the state department of health;**
- F. Encourage and support pupil-run organizations and activities that will develop a positive peer influence in the area of drugs and alcohol.**

To accomplish this in accordance with law, the chief school administrator shall prepare rules, procedures and programs for board adoption which will:

- A. Provide appropriately certified and trained staff to help in the identification, evaluation and counseling of pupils suspected of or diagnosed as being drug/alcohol users;**
- B. Provide for the cooperation of such staff with recommended local agencies in the evaluation, treatment and counseling of such pupils;**
- C. Provide for the immediate medical examination of pupils suspected to be under the influence of drugs/alcohol, and for emergency treatment when needed;**
- D. Provide for notification of local law enforcement agencies as appropriate;**
- E. Provide for notification of parents/guardians when a pupil is suspected or identified as involved with drugs/alcohol;**
- F. Provide specific penalties for possession, use and/or dealing in drugs/alcohol. The penalties shall be graded to reflect the seriousness of the act, and the age and competence of the offender. These disciplinary regulations shall be disseminated to all pupils, parents/guardians and staff annually.**

The district shall devise and provide a continuing educational program for pupils not attending classes for drug/alcohol related reasons. As prescribed by law, a pupil diagnosed as being under the influence of drugs/alcohol shall not return to school without a written report that the pupil is physically and mentally able to return to school. This report must be made by a physician who has examined the pupil to determine drug use.

The chief school administrator shall enlist the aid of pupils, parents/guardians, teachers, administrators, members of the community and representatives of involved agencies in a districtwide effort to implement this policy.

DRUGS, ALCOHOL, TOBACCO (continued)

This policy and implementing procedures shall be reviewed annually by the board, and shall be submitted for review and approval to the state department of education. All necessary reports of incidents to the state department of education shall be made.

Smoking

Smoking by pupils is not allowed on school premises, board vehicles, and at school-sponsored events.

Date:

Legal References:	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 2A:62A-4	Reports by educational personnel on dependency upon or illegal use of controlled dangerous substances or use of intoxicating vapor releasing chemicals; immunity from liability
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 2A:170-25.9	Definitions
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 2C:33-16	Alcoholic beverages; bringing or possession on school property by person of legal age; penalty
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:4-28.2	Workshop programs; presentation of problems of drug abuse involving young people
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:4-28.4	Definitions
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:4-28.13	Consumption of alcoholic beverages by school pupils; study; comprehensive plan for effective instructional program and handling of pupils
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:25-2	Authority over pupils
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:35-4	Course in nature and effect of alcoholic drinks and narcotics
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:35-4a	Evaluation and treatment of pupils involved with possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:37-1	Submission of pupils to authority
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:37-2	Causes for suspension or expulsion of pupils
	<u>N.J.S.A.</u> 18A:40-4.1	Pupil under influence of controlled dangerous substance or chemical releasing toxic vapor or fumes; treatment

DRUGS, ALCOHOL, TOBACCO

Legal References (continued)

<u>N.J.S.A.</u>	18A:40-4.2	Liability of educational personnel or personnel of hospital for treat- ment of pupil
<u>N.J.S.A.</u>	24:21-2	Definitions
<u>N.J.S.A.</u>	26:30-15 through -21	Legislative findings and declara- tions ...
<u>N.J.A.C.</u>	6:29-9	Drugs and alcohol

PUPILS AND DRUGS

In accordance with Board policy, the following procedures are established for the instruction of pupils in drug abuse and the evaluation and treatment of pupils who possess drugs, are under the influence of drugs, or are involved with drugs.

Instruction

1. Teachers shall be guided by the drug education program approved by the Board of Education as part of the health education curriculum in accordance with State Board rules and Department of Education guidelines. Drug education in the elementary grades will be appropriate to the age and maturity of pupils. Drug education in the secondary grades will be conducted for no fewer than ten clock hours per school year.
2. Teachers and administrators will be requested to evaluate annually the effectiveness of the drug education program.
3. Efforts to determine and remediate the underlying causes of drug abuse within the school environment will be encouraged.
4. Special courses or classes may be provided as required to meet the needs of pupils with drug problems.

Identification and Remediation of Pupils Involved with Drugs

1. A pupil is "involved with drugs" when he or she uses or is influenced by drugs, but not necessarily on school premises or during the school day. A suspicion or determination that a pupil is involved with drugs does not depend on a finding that the pupil is under the influence of a drug or possesses or distributes a drug on school premises.
2. Teaching staff members will be alert to potential signs of a pupil's involvement with drugs: impaired health or fatigue; excessive truancy or tardiness; lower grades; depressed appetite or loss of weight; appetite extremes; eyes that are bloodshot, watery, extremely wide, or have extremely small pupils; an unusual body or breath odor; needle marks (tracks) on legs and/or arms; a change in attitude, personality, temperament, appearance, or peer groups; mental confusion; financial problems; resort to excuses and rationalization.

REGULATIONS
PUPILS

3. A teaching staff member who suspects that a pupil is involved with drugs should bring the symptoms of drug involvement to the pupil's attention. If drug involvement is confirmed, the member should counsel the pupil. The member may refer the pupil to the school nurse, a guidance counselor, the child study team, or other professional staff member or trained resource person, as appropriate. The member shall notify the principal of the referral; the principal should notify the pupil's parent of the referral and discuss with the parent the possibility of medical or therapeutic treatment.
4. When a pupil involved with drugs has discussed his or her drug involvement with a teaching staff member with an expectation of confidentiality, the member may respect that confidence in order to assist the pupil toward remediation. The teaching staff member should encourage the pupil to seek aid from a professional trained in counseling and to confide in his or her parent. When the member believes that the pupil requires professional counseling or intervention that the pupil will not seek on his or her own, the member may report the pupil to the building principal, who shall determine whether to notify the pupil's parent and may report the pupil to an appropriate district professional or trained resource person or to an appropriate agency for evaluation and possible treatment.

Evaluation and Treatment of Pupils Under the Influence of Drugs

1. A pupil is under the influence of drugs when he or she is observed in the use of drugs or exhibits physical and/or behavioral characteristics that indicate drug intoxication.
2. Whenever it appears to an employee of the school district that a pupil may be under the influence of a controlled dangerous substance or any chemical or chemical compound that releases vapor or fumes causing a condition of intoxication, inebriation, excitement, stupefaction, or dulling of the brain or nervous system, the employee shall report the matter as soon as possible to the school nurse and the principal (or, in the principal's absence, to a person(s) designated by the principal). If neither the school nurse or school medical inspector is available, the director of Special Services shall be notified.
3. The principal shall immediately notify the pupil's parent and the Superintendent.

4. The principal shall arrange for the immediate examination of the pupil by a doctor selected by the parent or guardian or, if the parent's doctor is not immediately available, by the school medical inspector. If neither the parent's doctor nor the school medical inspector is immediately available, the pupil shall be taken to the emergency room of the nearest hospital for examination. The pupil shall be accompanied by the pupil's parent if possible, and by a member of the school staff appointed by the principal. An examination conducted, at parental request, by a physician other than the school medical inspector shall not be at district expense.
5. The pupil shall be examined as soon as possible for the purpose of diagnosing whether or not he or she is under the influence of a drug or chemical described in #1 above.
6. A written report of the examination of the pupil shall be furnished by the examining physician to the pupil's parent and to the Superintendent within twenty-four hours. The Superintendent shall determine, in the light of all circumstances, whether the pupil shall be admitted to school pending the receipt of results of the examination.
7. A pupil found to be under the influence of drugs shall be returned to his or her home as soon as possible. The pupil shall not be readmitted to school until he or she submits to the principal a written report, signed by the pupil's physician, the school medical inspector, or the examining physician, certifying that the pupil is physically and mentally able to return.

Possession and Distribution of Drugs

1. A pupil's person and effects, upon establishment of reasonable suspicion, may be searched in accordance with Board policy. School storage places may be searched in accordance with Board policy. The principal or other school officer conducting the search shall confiscate as evidence any drug found in the pupil's possession. Drug evidence shall be sealed in an appropriate container; labeled with the date, name of the pupil, and name of the school official who conducted the search and found the drug. The evidence shall be locked in a secure place until the school official delivers the evidence to a law enforcement officer, from whom the official shall obtain a receipt.
2. A pupil found to have possessed, distributed, or used drugs in violation of law and Board policy may be reported to appropriate law enforcement

REGULATIONS
PUPILS

officers and is subject to discipline in accordance with Board policy on suspension and expulsion. A Violence, Vandalism and Substance Abuse Incident Report Form will be filed.

3. A pupil convicted of drug use, possession, and/or distribution may be admitted to school on the recommendation of the child study team. A pupil who has been removed from school for his or her involvement with drugs, other than a pupil who has been expelled from school, shall be placed on home instruction.

Records

Notations concerning a pupil's involvement with drugs may be entered on his or her records, subject to Board policy regarding confidentiality and limited access. All such notations shall be deleted when they are no longer required for the counseling or discipline of the pupil or when the pupil leaves school.

PUPILS AND ALCOHOL

In accordance with Board policy, the following procedures are established for the instruction of pupils in alcohol abuse and the evaluation and treatment of pupils under the influence of alcohol or involved with alcohol.

Instruction

1. Teachers shall be guided by the curriculum approved by the Board of Education, in accordance with State Board rules and Department of Education guidelines for the instruction of pupils in the nature and effects of alcoholic beverages.
2. Supplemental activities, such as movies, poster campaigns, discussion of appropriate reading materials, outside speakers, and visits to rehabilitation centers, are encouraged.
3. Teachers and administrators will be requested to evaluate annually the effectiveness of the alcohol instruction program.
4. Efforts to determine and remediate the underlying causes of alcohol abuse within the school environment will be encouraged.
5. Special courses or classes may be provided as required to meet the needs of pupils with alcohol problems.

Identification and Remediation of Pupils Involved with Alcohol

1. A pupil is "involved with alcohol" when his or her consumption of alcoholic beverages, whether or not on school premises or during the school day, interferes with the pupil's learning and/or threatens the education of other pupils.
2. Teaching staff members will be alert to the signs of the misuse of alcohol by a pupil: impaired health or fatigue; excessive truancy or tardiness; lower grades; depressed appetite or loss of weight; a change in attitude, personality, temperament, appearance, or peer groups; financial problems; resort to excuses and rationalization.
3. A teaching staff member who suspects that a pupil is involved with alcohol should bring the symptoms of alcohol involvement to the pupil's attention.

REGULATIONS
PUPILS

If alcohol involvement is confirmed, the member should counsel the pupil. The member may refer the pupil to the school nurse, a guidance counselor, the child study team, or other professional staff member or trained resource person, as appropriate. The member shall notify the principal of the referral; the principal should notify the pupil's parent of the referral and discuss with the parent the possibility of medical or therapeutic treatment.

4. When the pupil involved with alcohol has discussed his or her alcohol involvement with a teaching staff member with an expectation of confidentiality, the member may respect that confidence in order to assist the pupil toward remediation. The teaching staff member should encourage the pupil to seek aid from a professional trained in counseling and to confide in his or her parent or guardian. When the member believes that the pupil requires professional counseling or intervention that the pupil will not seek on his or her own, the member may report the pupil to the building principal, who shall determine whether to notify the pupil's parent and may report the pupil to an appropriate district professional or to an appropriate agency for evaluation and possible treatment.

Evaluation and Treatment of Pupils Under the Influence of Alcohol

1. A pupil is under the influence of alcohol when he or she exhibits the physical and behavioral characteristics of alcoholic inebriation.
2. A staff member who suspects that a pupil is under the influence of an alcoholic beverage on school premises or at any activity sponsored by the Board of Education shall report the matter immediately to the school nurse or school medical inspector and principal (or his designee).
3. The pupil shall be removed to a protected environment with as little disruption to the educational program as possible. The pupil's parent and the Superintendent shall be notified promptly and given a description of the circumstances and the pupil's symptoms. The parent of an inebriated pupil shall be notified immediately and requested to assume promptly the care of the pupil. Pending the arrival of the parent or guardian and when the parent cannot be reached or is not available to assume care, the pupil may be retained in the nurse's care or taken to a physician or hospital at the discretion of the school nurse.
4. A pupil who has become unconscious or requires medical treatment as a result of alcoholic inebriation shall be given emergency medical assistance

in accordance with Board policy and regulations on emergencies. The parent of any such pupil will be promptly notified.

5. The parent of a pupil found under the influence of alcohol on school premises or at school events shall be requested to confer with the building principal and shall be encouraged to seek aid from a qualified agency.
6. The principal and appropriate staff members shall develop a plan to address the pupil's needs, including, if appropriate, the pupil's evaluation.
7. A pupil removed from the school because of his or her alcoholic inebriation and permitted to return to school when the state of inebriation no longer exists has been excluded from school for health reasons.
8. A pupil removed from school for the cause of alcoholic inebriation may be suspended by the building principal provided that the school nurse or other health professional certifies to the principal that the pupil is in a state of inebriation. The pupil shall be offered an opportunity to explain his or her condition to the principal (or his designee); when the pupil's condition interferes with his or her ability to offer an explanation, the pupil shall be offered an opportunity for an informal hearing before the building principal within twenty-four hours.

Possession and Consumption of Alcohol

1. Possession or consumption of an alcoholic beverage on school premises, at a school sponsored event, or on a school bus by a pupil of any age is a violation of district rules.
2. A pupil who possesses or consumes an alcoholic beverage on school premises, on a school bus, or in any public place in which an event sponsored by this Board takes place shall be reported immediately to the building principal (or his designee). The principal shall summon the pupil and may, in accordance with Board policy on pupil privacy, search the pupil and his or her property for the alcoholic beverage. A pupil found to have possessed or consumed alcohol in violation of law and Board policy may be reported to appropriate law enforcement officers and is subject to discipline in accordance with Board policy on suspension and expulsion. A Violence, Vandalism and Substance Abuse Incident Report Form will be filed.

Records

Notations concerning a pupil's involvement with alcohol may be entered on his or her records, subject to Board policy regarding confidentiality and limited access. All such notations shall be deleted when they are no longer required for the counseling or discipline of the pupil or when the pupil leaves school.