

WAUSAU SCHOOL DISTRICT

STUDENTS

5905

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Guidelines Relating to Alcohol and/or Other Controlled Substance Use

The Wausau School District recognizes that alcohol and other controlled substance use and the problems associated with it are common place in our society. Students have the right to attend school in an environment that is free from use of alcohol, non-medical use of controlled substances, or use of any substance that alters perception or behavior. These substances interfere with the learning environment of students and the performance of students and employees.

The District regards alcohol and other controlled substance use, addiction, or chemical dependency as a behavioral/medical problem. To address the problem, cooperation and communication between the parents/guardians and school are necessary. Parents/guardians are urged to contact the school with concerns pertaining to alcohol and controlled substance use. The schools, in turn, will communicate with parents/guardians of students experiencing problems associated with alcohol and/or controlled substances.

The following actions are prohibited by students in or on District property, in any District-owned or contracted vehicle, or at any District or school-sponsored activities and events:

1. The use, possession, dispensing, distribution, manufacture, transfer, sale, or possession with intent to sell controlled substances, alcohol, drug paraphernalia (as defined by local, state and federal statutes), or any substance that alters perception or behavior; and
2. Being under the influence of alcohol, controlled substances, or use of any substance that alters perception or behavior.

Parents/guardians and students will be informed annually through the Parent/Student Handbook of the established standards of conduct and possible sanctions related to the use and abuse of alcohol and controlled substances. This policy will also be distributed through school newsletters and/or school handbooks. Failure to abide by this policy may result in disciplinary action up to and including suspension or expulsion from school. Any disciplinary action shall be done in accordance with state law and established procedures. Violation of this policy may also result in referral to law enforcement officials for prosecution under specific local, state, or federal laws.

The District shall assist students, parents/guardians, and staff to be aware of procedures that exist to deal with the problems associated directly or indirectly with controlled substance and alcohol use and abuse. The District will participate in programs, including student support programs, that focus on prevention of drug and alcohol use and abuse and provide intervention and support for those students affected by controlled substance or alcohol problems. These programs should be part of a network of community services and be provided through both school and community efforts.

Alcohol And/Or Other Controlled Substance Enforcement Regulations

1. Reporting of students for use or possession of alcohol, controlled substances, or drug paraphernalia:
 - a. Anyone who has reasonable suspicion to believe a student is using or possessing alcohol, controlled substances, or drug paraphernalia in or on District property, in any District-owned or contracted vehicle, or at any District or school-sponsored activities and events shall report such student to the principal or his/her designee.
 - b. The principal or his/her designee shall investigate the incident. If alcohol or controlled substance use is suspected, the student will be referred to a counselor, school nurse, or other appropriate person.
 - c. If an alcohol or controlled substance use is established as the problem by the principal or his/her designee, the student's parents/guardians will be notified immediately. Law enforcement will also be notified.
 - d. The principal or his/her designee may request the student's parents/guardians have the student receive medical test(s) from an appropriate agency and/or have the student assessed by a professional outside agency.
 - e. If possession is suspected, the student's locker or storage area may be subject to a search. Any alcohol, controlled substance, or drug paraphernalia confiscated will be turned over to law enforcement.
 - f. Suspension procedures shall follow for any student found in violation of this provision. A student may also be considered for expulsion depending upon the outcome of the investigation.
 - g. Subsequent violations may result in a recommendation for expulsion.
2. Reporting of students for being under the influence of alcohol and/or controlled substances:
 - a. Anyone who has reasonable suspicion to believe that a student is under the influence of alcohol and/or other controlled substance in or on District property, in any District-owned or contracted vehicle, or at any District or school-sponsored activities and events shall report such student to the principal or his/her designee.
 - b. The principal or his/her designee shall investigate the incident. The student will be referred to a counselor, school nurse, or other appropriate person. The student's parents/guardians will be notified immediately.
 - c. If the principal or his/her designee is unable to contact a parent/guardian of the student referred or if the parent/guardian is unable to take immediate charge of such student, the principal, in the interest of the health and safety of the student, may make arrangements for appropriate medical treatment and transportation to a medical facility.

- d. The principal or his/her designee may request the student's parents/guardians have the student receive medical test(s) from an appropriate agency and/or have the student get an assessment by a professional outside agency.
- e. Suspension procedures shall follow for any student found in violation of this provision. A student may also be considered for expulsion depending upon the outcome of the investigation. Law enforcement may be involved.
- f. Subsequent violations may result in a recommendation for expulsion.

3. Student Self-Referral

- a. A counselor sought out by a student will try to help the student or will refer the student to an appropriate community agency.
- b. Confidentiality will be maintained by the counselor who will encourage the student to talk with parents/guardians and seek additional help. Only individuals who need to know will be involved.

4. Referral of students for dispensing, distributing, transferring, manufacturing, selling, or possessing with intent to sell alcohol, controlled substances, or drug paraphernalia:

- a. Anyone who has reasonable suspicion to believe that a student is dispensing distributing, transferring, manufacturing, selling, or possessing with the intention of selling alcohol, controlled substances, or drug paraphernalia on District property, in any District-owned or contracted vehicle or at any school-sponsored activity shall refer such student to the principal or his/her designee.
- b. The principal or his/her designee, shall investigate the incident and contact the student's parents/guardians.
- c. The student's locker and/or storage area may be subject to search during the investigation. Any confiscated alcohol, controlled substance, or drug paraphernalia will be turned over to the police.
- d. A referral will be made to the police for possible violation of local, state, or federal laws.
- e. Suspension procedures shall follow for any student found in violation of this provision. A student may also be considered for expulsion depending upon the outcome of the investigation.
- f. Subsequent violations may result in a recommendation for expulsion.

Legal Ref: WI Statutes 118.125, 118.126, 118.257, 120.13 (1), 125.02 (8)(m), 125.03, 125.09, and Drug Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989

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