

SUBJECT: ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, DRUGS AND OTHER SUBSTANCES (STUDENTS)

The Board of Education recognizes that the misuse of alcohol, drugs, tobacco, and other illegal substances is a serious problem with legal, physical, emotional and social implications for our students, as well as the entire community. Therefore, the consumption, sharing and/or selling, use and/or possession of alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, illegal drugs, counterfeit and designer drugs, or paraphernalia for the use of such drugs is prohibited at any BOCES-sponsored function, on BOCES grounds and on BOCES buses at all times. The inappropriate use of prescription and over-the-counter drugs shall also be disallowed.

Smoking

Smoking shall not be permitted and no person shall smoke within one hundred (100) feet of the entrance, exits or outdoor areas of any public or private elementary or secondary schools. However, this shall not apply to smoking in a residence, or within the real property boundary lines of such residential real property.

Non-medical Use of Prescription Drugs

Non-medical use of prescription drugs among young people has become an increasing problem in the United States. Prescription drugs are easier to access because they can be taken from their home's medicine cabinet and young people may believe they are safer than illicit drugs because they are manufactured by a pharmaceutical company.

Should a student be found in possession of any of these substances, they shall be dealt with in accordance with the *Code of Conduct*.

Persons Entering BOCES Grounds

Persons shall be banned from entering BOCES grounds or BOCES-sponsored events when exhibiting behavioral, personal or physical characteristics indicative of having used or consumed alcohol or other substances. A BOCES-sponsored function shall mean a BOCES-sponsored or BOCES-authorized extracurricular event or activity regardless of where such event or activity takes place, including any event or activity that may take place in another state.

In accordance with Penal Law Section 220.00 for purposes of controlled substances offenses:

- a) "BOCES grounds" means (a) in or on or within any building, structure, athletic playing field, playground or land contained within the real property boundary line of BOCES, or (b) any area accessible to the public located within one thousand (1,000) feet of the real property boundary line comprising any such school or any parked automobile or other parked vehicle located within one thousand (1,000) feet of the real property boundary line comprising BOCES. An "area accessible to the public" shall mean sidewalks, streets, parking lots, parks, playgrounds, stores and restaurants.

- b) "School bus" means every motor vehicle owned by the BOCES and operated for the transportation of pupils, teachers and other persons acting in a supervisory capacity, to or from school or school activities or privately owned and operated for compensation for the transportation of pupils, children of pupils, teachers and other persons acting in a supervisory capacity to or from school or school activities.

Prevention and Intervention

Through the collaborative efforts of staff, students, parents/guardians and the community as a whole, a comprehensive program shall be developed addressing alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and other substances to include the following elements:

Primary Prevention

Preventing or delaying alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and other substance use/abuse by students shall be the major focus of a comprehensive K through 12 program in which proactive measures of prevention and early intervention are emphasized. This program shall include:

- a) A sequential K through 12 curriculum based on recognized principles of effectiveness that is developed and incorporated into the total educational process. This curriculum shall be concerned with education and prevention in all areas of alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and other substances use/abuse;
- b) Training BOCES personnel and parents/guardians to reinforce the components of the policy through in-service and community education programs with up-to-date factual information and materials;
- c) An effort to provide positive alternatives to alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and other substances use/abuse through the promotion of drug/tobacco/alcohol-free special events, service projects and extracurricular activities that will develop and support a positive peer influence.

Intervention

School-based intervention services shall be made available to all students, grades K through 12, and provided by prevention professionals who are appropriately trained in this area. The purpose of intervention is to eliminate any existing use/abuse of alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and other substances and to identify students considered to be at risk for use/abuse. Intervention programming shall include:

- a) Counseling of students in groups and as individuals on alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and other substance use/abuse. Counselors shall be appropriately trained and skilled BOCES staff assigned for this purpose;
- b) Referring students to community or other outside agencies when their use/abuse of alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and other substances requires additional counseling or treatment. Referral is a key link in BOCES and community efforts and the process is basic to the dissemination of information regarding available counseling and health services;

- c) Providing a supportive school environment designed to continue the recovery process for students returning from treatment. A re-entry program may include continuing student and/or family counseling and emphasizing positive alternatives to alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and other substance use/abuse;
- d) Developing a parent network to serve as a support group and provide a vehicle of communication for parent education;
- e) Ensuring confidentiality as required by state and federal law.

Disciplinary Measures

Disciplinary measures for students consuming, sharing and/or selling, using and/or possessing alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, illegal drugs, counterfeit and designer drugs, or paraphernalia for the use of such drugs shall be outlined in the *BOCES Code of Conduct*.

Staff Development

There shall be ongoing training of BOCES staff about the components of an effective alcohol, tobacco and other substances program. Training shall include, but not be limited to, BOCES policies and regulations and the staff's role in implementing such policies and regulations. Teachers shall be trained to implement the BOCES K through 12 alcohol, tobacco, drugs and other substance prevention curricula; intervention staff shall be suitably trained to carry out appropriate services.

Implementation, Dissemination and Monitoring

It shall be the responsibility of the District Superintendent to implement the alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and other substances Board policy by collaboration with BOCES personnel, students, parents/guardians and the community at large.

Additionally, copies of Board policy shall be disseminated to BOCES staff, parents/guardians and community members. The Superintendent/designee shall periodically review the tobacco, drugs and alcohol abuse prevention program to determine its effectiveness and support appropriate modifications, as needed.

Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act, as reauthorized by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001
20 USC Section 7101 et seq.
Education Law Section 2801(1)
Penal Law Sections 70.70(2)(a)(i), 220.00(17) and 220.44(5)
Vehicle and Traffic Law Section 142

Adopted: February 13, 2013