

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

The Board of Cooperative Educational Services encourages cooperation with other community agencies and groups in preventing alcohol, tobacco, drug, and substance abuse. Provision shall be made for instructing employees and students in alcohol, tobacco, drug, and substance abuse and prevention. All laws pertaining to alcohol, tobacco, drug, and other substance use and possession shall be honored by students, adults, and adult students while on BOCES premises or at BOCES-sponsored activities, regardless of the location of the activity.

The Board recognizes that the issue of drugs, alcohol and/or tobacco is a serious problem with legal, physical, emotional and social implications for the entire community. Therefore, the manufacture, distribution, consumption, sharing and/or selling, use and/or possession of alcoholic beverages, tobacco, illegal drugs, counterfeit and designer drugs, or paraphernalia for the use of such drugs is prohibited on BOCES premises and at BOCES-sponsored activities, regardless of the location, at all times. In cases of special education students, the policy of the host district will be followed. The inappropriate use of prescription and over-the-counter drugs shall also be disallowed. Persons shall be banned from entering BOCES premises or school-sponsored events when exhibiting behavioral, personal or physical characteristics indicative of having used or consumed alcohol or other substances.

Through the collaborative efforts of staff, students, parents/guardians and the community as a whole, a certifiable 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 program in which proactive measures of prevention and early intervention are emphasized. This program shall include:

- a) Curriculums that incorporate prevention in all areas of alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and other substances uses/abuse;
- b) Training school personnel 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 activities that will develop a positive peer influence.

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(Cont'd.)**

Drug and Alcohol-Free Education and Prevention Program

In support of the Board's interest in the health and well-being of BOCES students and employees, and its commitment to a drug and alcohol-free learning and work environment, provision shall be made for a "Drug and Alcohol-Free Education and Prevention Program" for students and employees. (Refer also to [Policy #7113 -- Prevention Instruction.](#))

**Intervention**

School-based intervention services shall be made available to all students 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 school staff assigned for this purpose.
- b) Referring student 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 school 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 manufacturing, distributing, 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 a Student Code of Conduct.

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(Cont'd.)

**Staff Development**

There shall be ongoing training of BOCES staff about the components of an effective alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and other substances program. Training shall include, but not be limited to, Board policies and regulations and the staff's role in implementing such policies, and regulations. Teachers shall be trained to implement the alcohol 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 appropriate individuals including school personnel, students and parents/guardians.

Additionally, copies of Board policy shall be disseminated to BOCES staff and parents/guardians. The District Superintendent shall biennially review the alcohol, tobacco, drug, and substance abuse prevention program to determine its effectiveness and support appropriate modifications, as needed.

Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act  
Amendment of 1989 (Public Law 101-226)

NOTE: Refer also to [Policy #5160 -- Alcohol, Drugs and Other Substances \(School Personnel\)](#).

Adopted: 7/10/02