ALCOHOL USE BY STUDENTS/STUDENT DRUG ABUSE

The Board recognizes its share of the responsibility for the health, welfare and safety of the students who attend the District's schools. The Board is concerned about the problems of alcohol and drug abuse and recognizes that illegal or inappropriate use of alcohol, narcotic drugs, depressants or other controlled substances is wrong and harmful and constitutes a hazard to the positive development of all students.

The Board does not permit any student to possess, transmit, conceal, offer for sale, consume, show evidence of having consumed or used any alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, unprescribed drugs, look-alike drugs or any mind-altering substance while on school grounds or facilities; at school-sponsored events such as dances, proms and other functions; in other situations under the authority of the District or in school-owned or school-approved vehicles. Included in this prohibition are any substances represented as a controlled substance, nonalcoholic beers, steroids, tobacco and tobacco products and drug paraphernalia.

The Board wishes to emphasize that a student is required to obey existing laws on school grounds while involved in school activities. School authorities have the same responsibility as any other citizen to report violations of the law. The final disposition of any problem, however, is determined by the building principal with due consideration of the welfare of the student and of any other relevant factors involved. As a result, discipline is imposed independent of court action. Students are subject to immediate suspension or expulsion proceedings for possession or use of illegal drugs or alcoholic beverages. Parents and students are given a copy of the standards of conduct and the statement of disciplinary sanctions and are notified that compliance with the standards of conduct is mandatory. If conditions warrant, the administration refers the student for prosecution and offers full cooperation in a criminal investigation. A reduction in penalty may be considered if the student receives professional assistance. Professional assistance may include but not be limited to an alcohol/drug education program; assessment with follow-through based on the assessment findings, counseling, outpatient treatment or inpatient treatment.

The Board authorizes the Superintendent to develop detailed procedures to establish systems of deterrent that will promote the establishment and maintenance of a drug-free school system. Such deterrents may include, but are not limited to, random drug searches, voluntary random drug testing, random breathalyzer use at before- and after-school functions. The Superintendent must also establish procedures for dealing with students who may have a drug or alcohol problem. These procedures are in compliance with all applicable laws and observed by all staff members. At the beginning of each school year, the student code of conduct is reviewed with every student as part of the orientation process. Compliance with these standards defined in the Ohio Revised Code and in the accompanying regulations and the building code of conduct are mandatory each year in order to ensure parental support and compliance.

The Superintendent establishes and the Board considers for approval detailed procedures for dealing with students who may have a drug or alcohol problem. These procedures are in compliance with all applicable laws and observed by all staff members. It is the desire of the Board for students with problems to feel secure enough to ask for help from their teachers or counselors without fear of reprisal. Confidentiality shall be maintained within the limits of the law. The long-range welfare of the student is paramount.

[Adoption date: April 21, 1976]
[Re-adoption date: February 18, 1981]
[Re-adoption date: March 18, 1981]
[Re-adoption date: April 22, 1981]
[Re-adoption date: August 26, 1981]
[Re-adoption date: June 15, 1983]
[Re-adoption date: May 16, 1984]
[Re-adoption date: January 23, 1992]
[Re-adoption date: June 17, 1993]
[Re-adoption date: October 21, 1993]
[Re-adoption date: December 18, 1997]
[Re-adoption date: May 21, 1998]
[Re-adoption date: September 20, 2001]
[Re-adoption date: September 15, 2005]
[Re-adoption date: June 29, 2006]
[Re-adoption date: June 17, 2010]
[Re-adoption date: February 11, 2014]
[Re-adoption date: August 21, 2014]

LEGAL REFS.: Drug-Free Campus and Schools Act; 20 USC 3224(a)
ORC 2925.01; 2925.11; 2925.14; 2925.37
3313.66; 3313.661
3719.011; 3719.41

CROSS REFS.: IGAG, Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco Education
JFC, Student Conduct (Zero Tolerance)
JHCD, Administering Medicines to Students
Student Code of Conduct
Student Handbooks