

ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS

The Governing Board believes that the use of alcohol or other drugs adversely affects a student's ability to achieve academic success, is physically and emotionally harmful, and has serious social and legal consequences. The Superintendent or designee shall develop comprehensive programs and activities to foster safe, healthy, and drug-free environments that support academic achievement.

The district's alcohol and drug prevention and intervention programs shall be coordinated with other school and community-based services and programs and shall promote the involvement of parents/guardians. The Superintendent or designee may collaborate with the county office of education, community-based organizations, health providers, law enforcement agencies, local child welfare agencies, postsecondary institutions, businesses, and other public and private entities in program planning, implementation, and evaluation.

Prevention and intervention programs and activities may include, but are not limited to: (20 USC 7118)

1. Evidence-based drug and violence prevention activities and programs that educate students against the use of alcohol, tobacco, cannabis, smokeless tobacco products, and electronic cigarettes
2. Professional development and training for school staff, specialized instructional support personnel, and interested community members on drug prevention, education, early identification, intervention mentoring, recovery support services, and, where appropriate, rehabilitation referral
3. School-based mental health services, including early identification of drug use and referrals to counseling services, and/or partnerships with public or private health care entities that have qualified mental and behavioral health professionals
4. Programs and activities that provide mentoring and school counseling to all students, including students who are at risk of drug use and abuse

Instruction

The district shall provide science-based preventative instruction which has been proven effective in helping students avoid the use of alcohol and other drugs.

All instruction and related materials shall consistently state that unlawful use of alcohol or other drugs is prohibited. Instruction shall not include any message on responsible use of drugs or alcohol when such use is illegal. (Health and Safety Code 11999.2)

The district shall offer staff development activities for staff who implement the comprehensive drug and alcohol prevention and intervention program.

Intervention, Referral, and Student Assistance Programs

The Superintendent or designee shall inform school staff, students, and parents/guardians about early warning signs which may indicate alcohol and other drug use and about appropriate agencies offering intervention programs, counseling, referral, and other student assistance programs.

The Board strongly encourages any student who is using alcohol or drugs to discuss the matter with his/her parent/guardian or with any staff member. Students who disclose their use of alcohol or other drugs when seeking help from an intervention or recovery program shall not be disciplined for such use.

Enforcement/Discipline

Students shall not possess, use, or sell alcohol or other drugs and related paraphernalia on school grounds or at school-sponsored activities.

The Superintendent or designee shall clearly communicate to all students, staff, and parents/guardians the district's policies, regulations, and school rules related to the use of alcohol and other drugs.

Any student found by the Board to be selling a controlled substance listed in Health and Safety Code 11053-11058 shall be expelled in accordance with BP/AR 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process. A student found to have committed another drug or alcohol offense, including possession or intoxication, shall be referred to appropriate behavioral interventions or student assistance programs, and may be subject to discipline on a case-by-case basis.

Program Evaluation

The Board and Superintendent shall agree upon performance measures that will be used to monitor and determine the effectiveness of district programs in reducing drug and alcohol use. The Superintendent or designee shall periodically report to the Board on the effectiveness of district activities in achieving identified objectives and outcomes. (20 USC 7116)