



WOODSTOCK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
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**CODE F7**

## **ALCOHOL AND DRUGS**

### **Policy**

It is the policy of this School District that no student shall knowingly possess, use, sell, give or otherwise transmit, or be under the influence of any illegal drug, regulated substance, or alcohol on any school property, or at any school sponsored activity away from or within the school.

### **Philosophy**

This policy is concerned with the health and well-being of all students and the policy takes into consideration the individual needs of students with alcohol and substance abuse problems as well as the right of all students to receive an appropriate education in an alcohol and drug free environment. The Board encourages educational programs that provide every student with an understanding of the physical, psychological, social and legal dangers associated with drug abuse.

Chemical abuse and dependency are treatable health problems that are primarily the responsibility of the home and the community. The school shares this responsibility in the areas of prevention (education) and intervention (identification and referral).

Community and schools share in this responsibility because chemical problems often interfere with behavior, learning, and the fullest possible development of each student.

### **Definitions**

***Alcohol and drug (substance) abuse*** is the ingestion of a substance in such a way that it interferes with a person's ability to perform physically, intellectually, emotionally, or socially.

***Drug*** means any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana or any other controlled substance as defined by state or federal regulation or statute.

### **Implementation**

The Superintendent (or designee) is responsible for implementing procedures to see that the following requirements are met:

1. **Educational Program.** The District shall conduct an alcohol and drug abuse educational program on a sequential basis from early childhood through grade 12 in accordance with the mandates of 16 V.S.A. §909, the Vermont Alcohol and Drug Education Curriculum Plan, and the federal Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act (20 U.S.C. §§1701 et seq.).
2. **Cooperative Agreements.** In dealing with substance abuse cases, every effort will be made to promote responsible decision-making by the student involved and other students who are aware of another student's use or abuse. The focus will be to encourage

appropriate medical and/or psychological intervention by trained professionals. Students and parents or guardians will be given information about outside agencies and will be encouraged to take advantage of their services and programs.

The Woodstock Elementary School District, under a cooperative agreement with Ottaquechee Community Partnerships, has established a Student Assistance Program. Students, under the age of eighteen, who have been referred or who refer themselves to the Student Assistance Program counselor may be seen individually by the counselor for purposes of substance abuse screening and consultation. It will be the goal of the Student Assistance Program to encourage the student to involve his/her parents or guardians at the earliest point in time.

No student under the age of eighteen will be referred to an outside agency for substance abuse treatment without parental consent unless, in accord with 18 V.S.A. §4226, the student is 12 or over and found by a licensed physician to be dependent upon regulated drugs or an alcoholic.

Parental consent is not required for student participation in group programs conducted within the schools which are educational in nature and designed to impart information and/or assist students in improving their sense of self-esteem. Such groups may be conducted only by trained professionals contracted by the schools to perform such service or by trained school staff who have been approved by the school administration to conduct such groups.

3. **Substance Abuse Team.** In each school the Principal shall form a Substance Abuse Team which shall screen students who refer themselves and students who are referred by staff for suspected drug and/or alcohol use and/or abuse problems. The membership of the team and the procedures to be used by the team will be developed by the Principal and disseminated in writing to the building faculty and staff.
4. **Staff Training.** The District will provide school staff with training such that teachers and health and guidance personnel can competently teach or provide other services required in the school's alcohol and drug abuse prevention education program. Such training is outlined in State Board Rule 4213.2.
5. **Community Involvement.** The District will provide for a program to inform the community about substance abuse issues and about how schools are handling such issues.
6. **Annual Report.** In a standard format provided by the Department of Education, schools will submit an annual report to the Commissioner of Education describing substance abuse education programs and their effectiveness.
7. **Notification.** Parents and students will be given a copy of the standards of conduct and disciplinary sanctions contained in this policy and accompanying procedures, and will be notified that compliance with the standards of conduct is mandatory.

*Date Warned:* 09/06/06

*Date Adopted:* 10/4/06

*Legal* 20 U.S.C. §§1701 et seq. (Safe & Drug-Free Schools & Communities Act)  
16 V.S.A. §909 (Education curriculum)  
16 V.S.A. §1045 (Driver Training Course)

*16 V.S.A. §1165 (Alcohol and drug abuse)*

*18 V.S.A. §4226 (Drugs: minors, treatment, consent)*

*Vt. State Board of Education Manual of Rules and Practices §§4200 -*

*Cross Reference: Student Conduct and Discipline (F1)*

*Search and Seizure (F3)*

*Interrogations or Searches of Students by Law Enforcement)*

*Officers or Other Non-School Personnel (F5)*

**CODE F7-R**

## **PROCEDURES FOR DEALING WITH SUBSTANCE ABUSE INCIDENTS**

Students who are experiencing problems with alcohol and drugs are in need of assistance. The type of assistance needed may vary; however, the school system is committed to providing the most appropriate response to each individual. The actions set forth below will be considered routine procedures. In situations where extreme violations occur, the specific action may be waived by the administrator. Any action taken by waiver of these procedures will be explained in a written report to the Superintendent. All disciplinary measures taken in accordance with this policy will comply with due process requirements and, where appropriate, will be consistent with the rights of students with disabilities as reflected in the school's discipline policy. **Students under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs**

### **1. First Offense**

- A student will be treated as an ill student and will be sent home by an administrator after the parents have been notified. In crisis situations the matter will be handled as a medical emergency and accordingly the school officials will involve ambulance and police assistance as may be appropriate.
- Upon the return to school the following day, the student will be dealt with in accordance with the school's discipline program, if applicable.
- Police shall be notified when drugs are involved. Reporting of 1st offense alcohol problems to the police is within the discretion of the administrator.
- The student will be referred to the school's Substance Abuse Team.

### **2. Second offense**

- Steps (a, b and d) of the 1st offense procedures.
- Police shall be notified regardless of whether the offense is drug or alcohol related.
- The student will undergo an alcohol/drug assessment within 10 days of the incident and will participate in a treatment program if warranted by the assessment.
- Failure to comply with (c) above ( will / may ) result in the student being suspended from school for ten (10) day.

### 3. **Third Offense**

- Step (a) of the 1st offense procedures..
- Police shall be notified..
- The student ( will / may ) be suspended from school for ten (10) days and may be recommended to the Board for long-term suspension or expulsion..

### **Students in possession of drugs, drug paraphernalia, and/or alcohol**

When students are found in possession of drugs, drug paraphernalia, and/or alcohol, the substance(s) will be removed from the student. Procedures for handling such incidents will be identical to those used when a student is found to be under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol, except for Step 1a.

### **Students selling or furnishing alcohol and/or drugs**

#### 1. **First offense**

- The student will be suspended from school for ten (10) days after the parents have been notified...
- Police shall be notified...
- The student will be referred to the school's Substance Abuse Team...

#### 2. **Second offense**

- Steps (a) and (b) for 1st offense will be followed...
- The student may be recommended to the Board for long-term suspension or expulsion...

### **Suspected Substance Abuse**

When a staff member has reason to believe that a student might be having a problem related to substance abuse, the staff member shall make a referral to the Substance Abuse Team.

### **Co-Curricular Activities**

Students who violate the School District's policy on alcohol and drugs while they are members of a school team, are subject to additional disciplinary actions as are defined in the school's training rules. Any student who commits a second offense, in the same year, of the School District's policy may not represent the school and consequently the student will immediately be dismissed from all co-curricular activities (athletic and non-athletic) for the remainder of the school year.