DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE (DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS) AND ANABOLIC STEROIDS

The District shall use funds made available under 20 U.S.C. §7114 to develop and implement comprehensive programs and activities, which are coordinated with other school and community-based services and programs, that shall:

A. Foster a safe and drug-free learning environment that supports academic achievement;

B. Be designed to: (1) prevent or reduce violence, the use, possession, and distribution of drugs, and delinquency; and (2) create a well disciplined environment conducive to learning, which includes consultation between teachers, principals, and other school personnel to identify early warning signs of drug use and violence and to provide behavioral interventions as part of classroom management efforts;

C. Include activities to: (1) promote the involvement of parents in the activity or program; (2) promote coordination with community groups and coalitions and governmental agencies; and (3) distribute information about the District’s needs, goals, and programs under this policy;

D. Be based on an assessment of objective data regarding the incidence of violence and illegal drug use in the elementary schools and secondary schools and communities to be served, including an objective analysis of the current conditions and consequences regarding violence and illegal drug use, including delinquency and serious discipline problems, among students who attend such schools (including private school students who participate in the drug and violence prevention program) that is based on ongoing local assessment or evaluation activities;

E. Be based on an established set of performance measures aimed at ensuring that the elementary schools and secondary schools and communities to be served by the program have a safe, orderly, and drug-free learning environment;

F. Be based on scientifically based research that provides evidence that the program to be used will reduce violence and illegal drug use;

G. Be based on an analysis of the data reasonably available at the time, of the prevalence of risk factors, including high or increasing rates of reported cases of child abuse and domestic violence; protective factors, buffers, assets; or other variables in schools and communities in the State identified through scientifically based research; and

H. Include meaningful and ongoing consultation with and input from parents in the development of the application and administration of the program or activity.

Programs and activities developed and implemented under this policy, which meet the aforementioned requirements, may include the following:
A. Age appropriate and developmentally based activities that:
   1. address the consequences of violence and the illegal use of drugs, as appropriate;
   2. promote a sense of individual responsibility;
   3. teach students that most people do not illegally use drugs;
   4. teach students to recognize social and peer pressure to use drugs illegally and the skills for resisting illegal drug use;
   5. teach students about the dangers of emerging drugs;
   6. engage students in the learning process; and
   7. incorporate activities in secondary schools that reinforce prevention activities implemented in elementary schools.

B. Activities that involve families, community sectors (which may include appropriately trained seniors), and a variety of drug and violence prevention providers in setting clear expectations against violence and illegal use of drugs and appropriate consequences for violence and illegal use of drugs.

C. Dissemination of drug and violence prevention information to schools and the community.

D. Professional development and training for, and involvement of, school personnel, pupil services personnel, parents, and interested community members in prevention, education, early identification and intervention, mentoring, or rehabilitation referral, as related to drug and violence prevention.

E. Drug and violence prevention activities, which may include the following:
   1. Community-wide planning and organizing activities to reduce violence and illegal drug use, which may include gang activity prevention.
   2. Acquiring and installing metal detectors, electronic locks, surveillance cameras, or other related equipment and technologies.
   3. Reporting criminal offenses committed on school property.
   4. Developing and implementing comprehensive school security plans or obtaining technical assistance concerning such plans.
5. Supporting safe zones of passage activities that ensure that students travel safely to and from school, which may include bicycle and pedestrian safety programs.

6. The hiring and mandatory training, based on scientific research, of school security personnel (including school resource officers) who interact with students in support of youth drug and violence prevention activities under this part that are implemented in the school.

7. Expanded and improved school-based mental health services related to illegal drug use and violence, including early identification of violence and illegal drug use, assessment, and direct or group counseling services provided to students, parents, families, and school personnel by qualified school-based mental health service providers.

8. Conflict resolution programs, including peer mediation programs that educate and train peer mediators and a designated faculty supervisor, and youth anti-crime and anti-drug councils and activities.

9. Alternative education programs or services for violent or drug abusing students that reduce the need for suspension or expulsion or that serve students who have been suspended or expelled from the regular educational settings, including programs or services to assist students to make continued progress toward meeting the State academic achievement standards and to reenter the regular education setting.

10. Counseling, mentoring, referral services, and other student assistance practices and programs, including assistance provided by qualified school-based mental health services providers and the training of teachers by school-based mental health services providers in appropriate identification and intervention techniques for students at risk of violent behavior and illegal use of drugs.

11. Programs that encourage students to seek advice from, and to confide in, a trusted adult regarding concerns about violence and illegal drug use.

12. Drug and violence prevention activities designed to reduce truancy.

13. Age-appropriate, developmentally-based violence prevention and education programs that address victimization associated with prejudice and intolerance, and that include activities designed to help students develop a sense of individual responsibility and respect for the rights of others, and to resolve conflicts without violence.

14. Consistent with the fourth amendment to the Constitution of the United States, the testing of a student for illegal drug use or the inspecting of a student’s locker for weapons or illegal drugs or drug paraphernalia, including at the request of or
with the consent of a parent or legal guardian of the student, if the local educational agency elects to so test or inspect.

15. Emergency intervention services following traumatic crisis events, such as a shooting, major accident, or a drug-related incident that have disrupted the learning environment.

16. Establishing or implementing a system for transferring suspension and expulsion records by a school district to any public or private elementary school or secondary school.

17. Developing and implementing character education programs, as a component of drug and violence prevention programs, that take into account the views of parents of the students for whom the program is intended and such students.

18. Establishing and maintaining a school safety hotline.

19. Community service, including community service performed by expelled students, and service-learning projects.

20. Conducting a background check of each District employee, regardless of when hired, and prospective employees for the purpose of determining whether the employee or prospective employee has been convicted of a crime that bears upon the employee’s fitness: (a) to be responsible for the safety or well-being of children; (b) to serve in the particular capacity in which the employee or prospective employee is or will be employed; or (c) to otherwise be employed by the District.

21. Programs to train school personnel to identify warning signs of youth suicide and to create an action plan to help youth at risk of suicide.

22. Programs that respond to the needs of students who are faced with domestic violence or child abuse.

The Superintendent and/or designee shall develop a curriculum for instruction in the harmful effects of and legal restrictions against the use of drugs of abuse, inhalants, alcoholic beverages, and tobacco for students at each grade level and conduct such in-service training programs for staff members necessary to ensure effective teaching about drugs and assistance to students with drug problems.

The Superintendent shall take such steps as may be necessary to notify all students likely to be affected and their parents, the community, and appropriate law enforcement agencies of the Board policy on the use of drugs.
Anabolic Steroids

The Superintendent or designee shall conspicuously post the following warning in the locker rooms of each of the District's buildings that includes any grade higher than sixth grade:

"Warning: Improper use of anabolic steroids may cause serious or fatal health problems, such as heart disease, stroke, cancer, growth deformities, infertility, personality changes, severe acne, and baldness. Possession, sale, or use of anabolic steroids without a valid prescription is a crime punishable by a fine and imprisonment."

A complete list of those compounds which are classified as anabolic steroids is set forth in O.R.C. §3719.41, Schedule III.

LEGAL REFS: O.R.C. §3313.752

Adopted: July 18, 2006