

EASTERN SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD REGULATION

SUBJECT: **Alcohol and Other Drugs: The Use/Abuse/Misuse**

EFFECTIVE DATE: May 25, 2011

REVIEW DATE:

SUPERSEDES: June 8, 2005

CROSS REFERENCE: *The School Act*
Controlled Drugs and Substances Act of Canada
Alcohol and Other Drugs: The Use/Abuse/Misuse (JICH)
Student Investigations and Searches (JIH) and (JIH-R)
Relations with Law Enforcement and Child Protection
Authorities (KLG) and (KLG-R)

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Definitions

1. "Use/abuse/misuse of drugs" is interpreted to mean the non-medical use/abuse/misuse of restricted drugs on Eastern School District property and/or District/school sponsored events and includes the following:
 - a) All drugs that are listed in the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act of Canada.
 - b) All non-prescribed use/abuse/misuse of medical drugs which are available on prescription.
 - c) Any other substance when misused to induce a mind or body altering effect (such as, but not exclusive to solvents, corrections fluids, gasoline, cleaning fluids, energy drinks, and any other substance deemed by the District to affect the health, safety and learning of the students).
2. "Reasonably suspect" means an honest belief in the existence of a state of circumstances of facts which, assuming them to be true, would lead any ordinarily prudent and reasonable person to the same, or a similar conclusion
3. "District property" includes all school buildings, facilities, lockers and desks under the jurisdiction of the Eastern School District. It is also applicable to school buses, field trips, or at school sponsored events, whether they are held on or off school property. It includes any event where the student is under the supervision and/or care of the Eastern School District.

4. The District Response Team is a group of school-based and district-based professionals called together by the school principal to assess an allegation of a criminal, sexual, or other serious nature at a school
5. "Impact on school climate" means an incident or activity, which may or may not have happened on ESD property, which has a negative impact on the school community

Enforcement and Compliance

1. Possession or use/abuse/misuse of alcohol and other drugs by students, employees and visitors on Eastern School District property is strictly prohibited
2. All alcohol and/or other drug related matters involving visitors shall be dealt with in accordance with the *School Act*.
3. All alcohol and/or other drug related matters involving employees shall be dealt with in accordance with the applicable collective agreement.
4. Any student who uses/abuses/misuses or possesses alcohol or other drugs on school property will face progressive interventions and/or disciplinary action.
 - a) Students who use/abuse/misuse and/or possess or are under the influence of alcohol or drugs on school/District property, or that impacts on the school climate may be suspended as per the *School Act* and its regulations.
 - b) Students who continue to break ESD expectations will face progressive interventions including counseling, education at an alternative location, longer suspensions and possible expulsion from school.
5. School Administrators who have evidence or reasonably suspect that a student uses/abuses/misuses and/or possesses alcohol or drugs shall do the following:
 - a) Report the situation to the parents/guardians of the student and request a meeting with the parents/guardians.
 - b) When appropriate, report the situation to District administration and law enforcement officers.
 - c) When necessary, conduct an investigation and search in accordance with the *School Act* and the Eastern School District Regulation on Student Investigations and Searches (JIH-R).
 - d) Provide appropriate intervention which will include counselling and/or appropriate disciplinary action such as suspension, and/or expulsion.
6. School administrators who have evidence or reasonably suspect that a student is involved in selling, delivering and/or trafficking drugs on school property shall do the following:
 - a) Report the situation to the parents/guardians of the student and request a meeting.
 - b) Contact the appropriate law enforcement agency.

- c) In conjunction with the District Response Team, take appropriate disciplinary action. This may include removal from the regular school setting for an extended period (suspension or expulsion from school); and/or placement in an alternate setting; and/or removal of school privileges, i.e., sports, dances, graduation activities, etc.

7. Intervention and Counselling

- a) Students using/abusing/misusing alcohol or drugs, or reasonably suspected of using/abusing/misusing alcohol or drugs, may be referred for counselling.
- b) All students who have received interventions or disciplinary action for alcohol or illegal drug use may be required to participate in assessment by a youth addictions counsellor as a condition of school attendance.

8. Further Disciplinary Action

The principal, or designate, may impose more severe sanctions, in consultation with the District Response Team, parents/guardians and/or the Superintendent of Education, if students have two (2) or more infractions. These may include additional suspensions, and the initiation of expulsion proceedings. Three (3) considerations will be taken in to account:

- a) Indications that the student will continue to use/abuse/misuse alcohol and/or other drugs.
- b) Lack of serious concern on the part of the student(s) about the consequences of alcohol or other drug use/abuse/misuse.
- c) The level of disruption imposed on other students, school staff, and the education process.

NOTE: The imposition of severe sanctions would be justified by an unfavorable assessment by the school principal and/or designate, in consultation with the District Response Team, parents/guardians and/or the Superintendent of Education, in any of the three (3) areas of consideration.

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