

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE : DRUGS AND ALCOHOL BEHAVIOR

ADOPTED: AUGUST 18, 2014

REVISED: FORMERLY 6200AR

# TURKEYFOOT VALLEY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

## 227AR ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINE

### DRUGS AND ALCOHOL BEHAVIOR

#### OVERVIEW

The Turkeyfoot Valley Area School District School Board acknowledges that drug and chemical dependency interferes with the individual’s comprehensive well-being and functioning within the school and family. The Board of Director’s recognizes that chemical dependency can be treated. The Board of Directors realizes the importance in establishing policy, rules, regulations and guidelines that effectively enhance a drug free school environment and provides for the well-being and safety of its students.

The Board of Directors supports (1) the administration and district staff in their commitment to effectively coordinate the efforts of the school with those of the community, family and law enforcement agencies; and, (2) the efforts to educate, prevent and intervene in the use and abuse of all drugs by its students.

To protect the health, safety and welfare of its students, staff and the educational process, the school district prohibits the use, possession, sale or distribution of controlled substances (drugs and alcohol) or look-alike substitutes on school property, lockers, vehicles used to transport students (including private vehicles) at designated school bus stops and at school sponsored activities.

#### CURRENT POLICY

##### Students

- 6200.13 Alcohol: Students found drinking or possessing alcoholic beverages on school property or at a school event will be suspended from school for a minimum of three (3) days. The suspension may be longer, depending upon specific circumstances. Legal action may also be taken. Students exhibiting effects of drinking-even if it occurred out of school-are also subject to disciplinary action. This includes, but is not limited to, the above-stated disciplinary steps. \*
- 6200.14 Drugs: Students peddling drugs on school property may be recommended for expulsion from school and will be reported to legal authorities. Students possessing or using illegal drugs on school property will be suspended from school reported to legal authorities and may be recommended for expulsion.

Proposed Addition to Current Policy 02/01/91

- 6200.13 \* Parents/guardian will be notified

**ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES**

Guideline 1 (under influence/possession)

These guidelines refer to a student under the influence of a controlled substance or look-alike substance, or is believed to be in possession of a controlled substance or look-alike substance.

- A. School authorities will do an appropriate search and seize any illegal material or look-alike substance and follow procedures for confiscation.
- B. The police will be notified
- C. The parents/guardians will be notified.
- D. All standard health and first aid procedures will be followed if it appears the student (1) is under the influence. The student is NOT to be left alone.
- E. The SAP team will be notified and will be required to do an initial assessment. The team to contact is the Somerset County Drug & Alcohol Program or other agencies that may be deemed necessary.
- F. Confidentiality will be confined to those with a need to know as mandated by administrative guidelines.
- G. Disciplinary measures will include immediate suspension out of school for a minimum of three (3) school days and up to ten (10) school days during which time an informal hearing will be held. Determination will be made as to the continuation of the suspension and if a formal hearing will be held before the Board of Education.
- H. Any other legal and/or appropriate action deemed necessary and appropriate will be taken.

Guideline 2

**Sap Core Team**

Intervention is required or warranted when a student is identified as a student at risk and/or the behavior of the student jeopardizes his/her health or the safety and welfare of the other students and staff. Intervention is mandated when a student is observed using or in possession of drugs or alcohol in violation of state or federal laws.

The SAP team is an intervention team and not a treatment team or program. This team incorporates a multi-disciplinary systems approach that enhances school staff to help at risk students.

Teachers, administration, support staff, parents and students may initiate referrals to the student assistance program as a result of observed changes in behavior, attendance and/or performance which may act as drug/alcohol related.

The school's professional staff operates under the concept of "in loco parentis." The concept provides school personnel with certain rights and responsibilities similar to that of the parent. (a) Section 1317 of the school code, (b) 42 PA consolidated statutes, section 2, 8337 – civil immunity of school officers of employees relating to drug or alcohol abuse, (c) title xii, chapter 14 of the school code, section 1402.

Guideline 3

**Confiscation of a Substance**

The following procedures shall be followed when confiscating a substance and/or drug paraphernalia:

- A. The confiscated matter should be placed in an envelope in the presence of an adult witness.
- B. The following information shall be recorded on the outside of the envelope: date, time, school name, description of contents (e.g., leafy vegetable material, pill, capsule; do not guess at labeling)
- C. The envelope shall be sealed, the administrator's initials placed over the seal and the signature of the administrator and witness shall appear on the envelope.
- D. The administrator shall call the local law enforcement agency indicating that there is a sample to be analyzed and request that it be picked up. The substance or matter shall be retained by the school administrator in a secure location until it is delivered to the police.

Guideline 4

**Confidentiality**

Confidentiality is a prime importance in this program. Parents will be notified by the Core Team when the health or safety of the student at risk or matters of the discipline code are addressed.

- 1. 42 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes 5945, confidential communications to school personnel.
- 2. Act 124, Child Protective Services – Child Abuse (as amended by Acts 33, 35 or 1985).
- 3. Act C3, Pennsylvania Drug & Alcohol Control Act, Title XXII, chapter 12 or the school code, section 12, February 18, 1984.
- 4. Immunity Bill: section 2, title 42, section 8337, Title XXII, chapter 14 of the school code, section 1409.

Guideline 5

**Definition of Terms**

Drugs – shall include the following: Any alcoholic beverage; solvent or any drug or substance defined as a “controlled substance” and prohibited by the controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act, as amended, (35P.S. 780-101, et.seq) or any comparable or related state or federal statute or regulation; any medication for which a prescription is required under the law; and/or any substance, which or the label or container of which, substantially resembles a specific restricted drug and/or controlled substance or is purposed to be such (commonly referred to as look-alike drugs).

Drug Paraphernalia – shall include those items as listed in the Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act. “Drug paraphernalia” shall also include any forged, stolen or blank prescriptions.

	<p><u>Possession</u> – means the possession or use of any drug on school properties or at school activities and also includes paraphernalia. Possession of a drug with a valid prescription issued to the student is excluded.</p> <p>Distributing – deliver, sell, pass, share, or give any drug or drug paraphernalia from one person to another or to aid therein.</p> <p>Core Team – a multi-disciplinary team composed of school personnel (teachers, staff, administrators, nurses, counselors) and invited specialists of the community trained to work with students at risk.</p> <p>Student at Risk – a student who demonstrates changes in attitude, behavior and/or appearance with negative impacts upon school performance, and/or safety and welfare.</p> <p>Assessment – the formal gathering of information regarding the at risk student by a trained chemical abuse specialist for the purpose of the possible referral for treatment.</p> <p>Intervention – process and/or event which interferes with, prevents, and/or alters the progression of the risk student’s possible chemical dependency.</p> <p>Chemical Dependency – a physical and/or psychological dependency on a drug, which is primary, chronic, progressive and fatal.</p> <p>Staff Member – includes any person working for the Turkeyfoot Valley Area School District either directly or indirectly with the students.</p> <p>Parent – any adult, who has supervisory responsibility over the child.</p>
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Approved 11/02/90  
Revised 3/11/02

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