

DRUG-FREE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

The board prohibits the distribution, dispensing, manufacture, possession, use, or being under the influence of beer, wine, alcohol, tobacco/nicotine products, other controlled substances, or "look alike" substances that appear to be tobacco/nicotine products, beer, wine, alcohol or controlled substances by students:

1. in all school buildings, on the school campus, in bus garages, administrative offices, and parking lots within established school boundaries.
2. in close proximity to the school campus when discipline infractions occur in close proximity to the school day or away from school grounds or school events if the misconduct directly affects the good order, efficient management and welfare of the school district.
3. while on school-operated or chartered buses/vehicles or while being transported under supervision of school personnel or in close proximity to the bus stop.
4. while attending school-sponsored or school-related activities in which a district school participates, whether or not on district-owned premises. This includes events away from the school district.

The board believes such illegal, unauthorized or contraband materials generally cause material and substantial disruption to the school environment or present a threat to the health and safety of students, employees, or visitors.

Violation of this policy by students will result in disciplinary action including suspension or expulsion. Use, purchase or being in possession of cigarettes, tobacco or nicotine products for those under the age of eighteen, may be reported to the local law enforcement authorities. Possession, use or being under the influence of beer, wine, alcohol and/or of a controlled substance may also be reported to the local law enforcement authorities.

Students who violate the terms of this policy may be required to satisfactorily complete a substance abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved by the school board. If such student fails to satisfactorily complete such a program, the student may be subject to discipline including suspension or expulsion.

The board believes the substance abuse prevention program will include:

- Age-appropriate, developmentally-based drug and alcohol curriculum for students in grades kindergarten through twelve, which address the legal, social, and health consequences of tobacco/nicotine products, drug and alcohol use and which provide information about effective techniques for resisting peer pressure to use tobacco/nicotine products, drugs or alcohol;
- A statement to students that the use of illicit drugs and the unlawful possession and use of alcohol is wrong and harmful;
- Standards of conduct for students that clearly prohibit, at a minimum, the unlawful possession, use, being under the influence of or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students on school premises or as part of any of its activities;

- A clear statement that disciplinary sanctions, up to and including suspension or expulsion and referral for prosecution, will be imposed on students who violate the policy and a description of those sanctions;
- A statement that students may be required to successfully complete an appropriate rehabilitation program;
- Information about drug and alcohol counseling and rehabilitation and re-entry programs available to students;
- A requirement that parents and students be given a copy of the standards of conduct and the statement of disciplinary sanctions required; and
- Notification to parents and students that compliance with the standards of conduct is mandatory.

A drug-free school environment is recognized by the Board of Education of the Waterloo Community School District as essential to prevent serious problems and threats to the academic, social, physical, and emotional welfare of all students.

The Waterloo Community School District is committed to the establishment of policies and procedures which:

1. increase student awareness of the hazards of substance use/abuse,
2. improve student attitudes and decision-making skills and,
3. provide assistance and referral services for students with substance use/abuse problems.

An atmosphere conducive to the educational excellence of all students is a major responsibility of the District. To successfully meet this obligation, procedures have been developed which are consistent with State law. The use, possession, and/or distribution of alcohol or other controlled substances will be considered in violation of District policy.

Substance use/abuse extends beyond the school setting into the community and society as a whole. Responsibility for addressing this issue must be assumed by the entire community — schools, parents, government, religious organizations, public and private agencies, and legislative bodies, if resolution of the problem is to be achieved.

Legal Ref.: 34 C.F.R. Pt. 86.
Iowa Code §§ 123.46; 124; 279.8, .9; 453A.
281 I.A.C. 12.3(6); .5(3)(e), .5(4)(e), .5(5)(e)

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