

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: DRUG AWARENESS

ADOPTED: August 12, 1991

REVISED:

# Farrell Area School District

## 227. DRUG AWARENESS

### 1. Purpose

Farrell Area School District realizes that student growth and development are affected by problems that occur in school, at home, and in the community. The district accepts a shared role in identifying these problems and intervening in an appropriate manner to resolve them. This responsibility is shared with students' families, religious groups, community agencies, and concerned citizens.

Farrell Area School District will work to educate the entire student body concerning the dangers of illicit drugs and alcohol. Furthermore, it will work to prevent and intervene in the use and abuse of drugs, alcohol, and mood-altering substances by members of the student body. Methods for accomplishing these goals include: implementing an up-to-date curriculum at every grade level, enforcing administrative guidelines and disciplinary procedures, involving the Pupil Support Team when appropriate, and communicating and cooperating with all involved outside agencies when deemed appropriate and advisable.

### 2. Definition

42 P.S.  
8337

Drug/Alcohol/Mood-Altering Substances - shall include all alcoholic beverages; drugs listed in Act 64 (1974) as a controlled substance; prescription medications; over-the-counter pills; drugs or substances intended to excite, relax or alter moods. Examples include but are not limited to: beer, wine, liquor, marijuana, hashish, cocaine in all forms, hallucinogens, opiates, barbiturates, stimulants, chemical solvents, glue, look-alike substances and designer drugs. Any capsule, tablet or liquid not registered with the school nurse, annotated within the student's health record, and given in accordance with the school district's policy for the administration of medication to students in school also may fall under this category.

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drug paraphernalia - includes any utensil or item which in the school's judgement can be associated with the use of drugs, alcohol or mood-altering substances. Examples include but are not limited to: roach clips, pipes, spoons, razor blades, rolling papers, syringes, and measuring scales.

possession - to possess or hold, without any attempt to distribute, any alcohol, drug or mood-altering substance as defined by this policy. This not only includes being found on one's person but also in one's property such as in a book, a purse, or a locker.

distributing - to deliver, sell, pass, share, or give any alcohol, drug or mood-altering substances, as defined in this policy, from one person to another, or aid therein.

cooperative behavior - shall be defined as the willingness of the student to work with the staff and school personnel in a reasonable and helpful manner. This includes complying with the requests and recommendations of the staff, school personnel, and/or a licensed drug and alcohol facility.

uncooperative behavior - is resistance or refusal on the part of the student to comply with the requests or recommendations of the staff, school personnel, and/or a licensed drug and alcohol facility. Deceit, defiance, truancy, assault, threatening behavior, and passive noncompliance are some examples.

searches - when there is reasonable cause to believe that a student may be in possession of contraband, the school principal may initiate a search of the student's locker, possessions, or person. The student should first be asked to relinquish the suspected contraband or agree to a search before an involuntary search is conducted. An adult witness shall be present. With all searches, the primary purpose is the protection of the health, safety, and welfare of students, faculty, school property, and the educational process.

Pupil Support Team - is a group of professional school personnel educated in the areas of prevention, identification, and intervention of student drug and alcohol problems. This team may consist of the health instructor, school nurse, guidance staff, school psychologist, building administrator, and any other

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appropriate social service representatives as defined by the team. The Pupil Support Team may also become involved in a variety of other student problems including but not limited to: neglect and abuse, truancy and dropout, teen pregnancy, and suicide.

outside referral - when the school refers a student to an agency licensed by the state to assess and treat individuals who use or abuse drugs and/or alcohol. Other agencies may also be involved as are appropriate for the individual case.

3. Authority  
  
SC 510  
Title 22  
Sec. 12.3

The Board authorizes that any Farrell student who possesses, uses, is under the influence, dispenses, sells, or aids in the procurement of drugs, alcohol, or mood-altering substances shall be subject to the disciplinary procedures outlined in the student handbook and the administrative regulations reference chart. This holds true during school sessions, during all school sponsored activities, while anywhere on school grounds, or while riding school transportation. If any person's actions are in violation of the district's rules or are a potential danger to students or staff, law enforcement involvement will occur.

4. Responsibility  
  
Title 22  
Sec. 12.12  
42 P.S.  
8337

The privileged confidentiality between students and guidance counselors, school nurses, school psychologists, home and school visitors and other school employes shall be respected and no confidential communication made to any such employe shall be required to be revealed without the consent of the student or his/her parent unless the best interests of the student can be served only by doing so.

The administration is directed to emphasize the phase of health education dealing with drugs, and alcohol by strengthening the instructional staff, materials, and use of competent community resources.

Administrative regulations represent a major component in Farrell Area School District's effort to prevent the use and abuse of drugs, alcohol and mood-altering substances by members of the student body and to intervene when such use or abuse is suspected or known. These regulations are intended to provide a consistent minimum disciplinary means to respond to various incidents and situations.



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The administration and School Board reserve the right to use any extraordinary measures deemed necessary to enforce the rules and regulations, even if not specifically enumerated.

Individual student's rights and the safety and welfare of the student body are both considered in any decision.

The administrative regulations are presented in reference chart form.

School Code

510

PA Code

Title 22

Sec. 12.3,

12.12

PA Statute

42 P.S. 8337

Other Cite

Act 104 of

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