

**SOUTH BURLINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT
POLICY F6**

STUDENT ALCOHOL AND DRUG POLICY

POLICY

It is the policy of the South Burlington School District that no student shall possess, use, sell, give or otherwise transfer, or be under the influence of any illegal drug, regulated substance (other than prescribed to them by their physician and used in accordance with the student medication procedures), or alcohol on any school property, or at any school sponsored activity away from or within the school. It is further the policy of the District to make appropriate referrals in cases of substance abuse.

DEFINITIONS

Substance Abuse is the ingestion of drugs and or alcohol in such a way that it interferes with a person's ability to perform physically, intellectually, emotionally, or socially.

Drug means any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana or any other controlled substance as defined by state or federal regulation or statute.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

The Superintendent shall work with appropriate staff members to develop and conduct an alcohol and drug abuse educational program on a sequential basis from early childhood through grade 12 as required by Vermont law. The program shall be consistent with the Vermont Alcohol and Drug Education Curriculum Plan. If the school district is a recipient of federal Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act funds, the Act will be considered in the development of the alcohol and drug abuse educational program.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TEAM

In each school the Superintendent shall form a Substance Abuse Team, which shall screen students who refer themselves and students who are referred by staff for suspected drug and/or alcohol use and/or abuse problems. The membership of the team and the procedures to be used by the team will be developed by the Superintendent and disseminated in writing to the building faculty and staff. The Team will determine the need for further screening, education, counseling or referral for treatment in each case referred to it.

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS

In dealing with substance abuse cases, every effort will be made to promote responsible decision-making by the student involved and other students who are aware of another student's use or abuse. The focus will be to encourage appropriate medical and/or psychological intervention by trained professionals. The Superintendent shall annually designate a member of the substance abuse team to be responsible for providing information to students and parents or guardians about outside agencies that provide substance abuse prevention services and to encourage the use of their services and programs when appropriate.

The South Burlington School District, under a cooperative agreement with Howard Center for Human Services, has established a Student Assistance Program. Students, under the age of eighteen, who have been referred or who refer themselves to the Student Assistance Program counselor may be seen individually by the counselor for purposes of substance abuse screening and consultation. It will be the goal of the Student Assistance Program to encourage the student to involve his/her parents or guardians at the earliest point in time.

REFERRAL AND CONSENT

Students over the age of eighteen may be referred to an outside agency for substance abuse treatment without parental consent. Students between the age of twelve and eighteen may be referred to an outside agency for substance abuse treatment without parental consent if a licensed physician verifies that they are dependent upon regulated drugs or are an alcoholic and the School District has notified the parents and made a good faith effort to obtain consent.

Parental consent will not be required for student participation in group programs conducted within the schools which are educational in nature and designed to impart information and/or assist students in improving their sense of self-esteem. Such groups may be conducted only by trained professionals contracted by the schools to perform such service or by trained school staff who have been approved by the school administration to conduct such groups.

STAFF TRAINING

The Superintendent will work with appropriate staff to provide training necessary to ensure that teachers and health and guidance personnel are prepared to competently teach or provide other services required in the school's alcohol and drug abuse prevention education program. Training will be designed to meet the requirements of State Board Rule. The training will include a component explaining procedures that

require immediate notification of the school administration by school staff of any violation of law, including the illegal possession or distribution of drugs or alcohol.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Superintendent will work with school staff and community members to design and implement a program to inform the community about substance abuse issues and the programs and supports provided by the school to educate students about the dangers of alcohol and drug abuse and to assist students who are abusing alcohol or drugs.

ANNUAL REPORT

In a standard format provided by the Department of Education, the Superintendent or his or her designee will submit an annual report to the Commissioner of Education describing substance abuse education programs and their effectiveness.

NOTIFICATION

The Superintendent shall ensure that parents and students are given copies of the standards of conduct and disciplinary sanctions contained in this policy and accompanying procedures, and are notified that compliance with the standards of conduct is mandatory. Notice to students will, at a minimum, be provided through inclusion of these standards and sanctions in the student handbook distributed to all students at the beginning of each school year.

Date Policy Warned:	February 21, 2007
Date Policy Considered:	March 14, 2007
Date Policy Considered:	April 4, 2007
Date Policy Considered:	May 9, 2007
Date Policy Considered:	May 23, 2007
Date Policy Adopted:	July 11, 2007

Signed:
Richard Cassidy, Chair
Theodore Manazir, Clerk
Carol Caldwell-Edmonds
Elizabeth Fitzgerald
Agnes Clift

AUTHORITY AND CROSS REFERENCE

Legal References

See definitions in 18 V.S.A. §4201; 41 U.S.C. §706(3); 21 U.S.C. §812.

SBE Rules and Practices §§4200 -4215)

SBE Rule 4211

SBE Rule 4212.2 requiring that education program be consistent with this Plan.

SBE Rule 4212.3D

SBE Rule 4213.2

SBE Rule 4212.3C

SBE Rule 4214

SBE Rule 4215

16 V.S.A. §909 (Drug & Alcohol Abuse Prevention Education Curriculum)

16 V.S.A. §131(9) (Comprehensive Health Education)

16 V.S.A. §1045(b)(*Driver Training Course*)

16 V.S.A. §1165 (*Alcohol and drug abuse*)

18 V.S.A. §4226 (*Drugs: minors, treatment, consent*)

Note: SBE Rule 4212.3B requires that each "...school district policy...establish procedures for administering emergency first aid related to alcohol and drug abuse. The procedures will define the roles of the personnel involved."

20 U.S.C. §§7101 et seq. (Safe & Drug-Free Schools & Communities Act of 1994)

Cross References

Student Conduct and Discipline Policy

Search and Seizure Policy

Interrogations or Searches of Students by Law Enforcement)

Officers or Other Non-School Personnel Policy

The International Exchange (TIE) Policy