

**WALLINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
CHEMICAL SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION AND CONTROL**

With the realization that there has been an increase in drug and alcohol usage among school age children, we, in the Wallington Public Schools, have adopted a set of guidelines designed to prevent substance abuse in our schools. The policies established shall ensure the constitutional rights of our students while being consistent with the obligations and responsibilities of the school district, regarding the health and safety of the student body as a whole. Substances relating to this policy include drugs and alcohol. Please note that state law (N.J.S.A.8A:40A-1 to 21) requires automatic drug/alcohol screening if a staff member suspects drug use in school or at a school-related activity.

We are aware that a substance abuse control program should be both preventive and remedial. Our entire school system will work with parents and community officials to create a free and open atmosphere conducive to such a program. We believe that prevention can be achieved through understanding and education; a shared responsibility between school and community.

POLICY

1. The principal or his/her designee shall establish procedures for instruction of staff.
2. The principal or his/her designee will be the communicating agent with the law enforcement agencies.
3. Student lockers are subject to inspection by and at the discretion of the principal or his/her designee as per our Search and Seizure Policy. A minimum of two staff members should be present.
4. IDENTIFICATION:
If a student appears to be under the influence of drugs, alcohol, anabolic steroids, or other controlled dangerous substances or chemicals on school property or at a school function the matter must be reported by the staff member to the school nurse and principal, or his designee, immediately. In the absence of the aforementioned personnel, the staff member responsible for the function must be notified. The principal and his/her designee must immediately notify the parent/guardian, and the chief school administrator, and arrange for an immediate medical examination and drug screening of the pupil. The student will be transported to the medical examiner by a staff member and police person or the parent. If the student is to be examined and screened by their personal physician the parent may transport. This must be performed by a licensed physician selected by the parent/guardian or by the district medical examiner. Parents, or students over the age of 18, are responsible for the cost of the initial test if the results are positive. They are also responsible for the cost of any subsequent tests. **(Item #6 includes exceptions to this.)**
5. If the physician or medical examiner are not available the pupil shall be transported to the nearest hospital emergency room (St. Mary's Hospital, Passaic). He/she shall be accompanied by a member of the school staff, designated by the principal or his/her designee, and a police officer, or emergency squad if needed. The parent/guardian will be contacted, and will accompany the pupil and staff member if possible.

Drug/alcohol screening and the medical examination are to be completed immediately. Parents, or students over the age of 18, are responsible for the cost of the initial test if the results are positive. They are also responsible for the cost of any subsequent tests. **(Item #6 includes exceptions to this.)** The district assumes the cost for these services if sent to the district medical examiner or emergency room and the results are negative. A written report of the medical examination

shall be furnished to the parent or guardian of the pupil, the principal and the chief school administrator by the examining physician within 24 hours. If the parent chooses a physician other than the district's medical examiner such examination shall not be at the expense of a district (NJAC 6:29-6.5)

If the written report of the drug screening is not submitted to the parent, principal or chief school administrator within 24 hours, the pupil shall be allowed to return to school with verification from the physician that the student is not a health or safety threat to him/herself or others. Final determination of the return to school is dependent on the results of the drug/alcohol screening.

6. If there is a positive diagnosis indicating that the pupil is under the influence of alcohol or drugs the student will be returned to the care of the parents or guardian. Attendance will not resume until a written report is submitted by a physician indicating a negative result on subsequent substance abuse screening. The parent is responsible for payment of the second and all subsequent testing. The report shall also certify that substance abuse no longer interferes with the pupil's physical and mental ability to perform in school and is not a threat to him/herself or others. A Violence, Vandalism and Substance Abuse Incident Report must be filed.

Students who have tested positive for the first time will be out-of-school suspended for a minimum of three days. A second offense will result in a minimum of five days of out-of-school suspension. Subsequent instances will be addressed on an individual basis. Upon the return to school the student and his/her parents/guardian must meet with the Principal/vice principal, student assistance counselor (if available) and nurse.

7. If the parent refuses to have the student examined to determine if he/she is physically or mentally able to return to school the student will be referred to DYFS.
8. A student found selling, transferring, possessing or under the influence of drugs or alcohol during school hours or at a school function or at any time anywhere on school grounds and/or property shall be reported to the principal or staff member in charge. The police (in case of selling, transferring or possessing) and parents will be notified and a medical examination and drug screening administered as per #4. **Parents, or students over the age of 18, are responsible for the cost of the initial test if the results are positive. They are also responsible for the cost of any subsequent tests.** The student will be suspended from school. Attendance will not resume until a written report is submitted by a physician indicating a negative result on subsequent substance abuse screening. The report shall also certify that substance abuse no longer interferes with the pupil's physical and mental ability to perform in school and is not a threat to him/herself or others. A Violence, Vandalism and Substance Abuse Incident Report must be filed. Students have the right of appeal regarding the suspension, through the principal, superintendent and board of education as provided for in student grievance procedure.
9. A student who has been apprehended for violation of drug or narcotic laws outside the jurisdiction of the schools shall be solely responsible to the appropriate legal authorities. There shall be no interference to his right to an on-site education. However, the student may be identified to his teachers and referred to the Student Assistance Counselor, and/or sent to the district's chief medical examiner for a medical examination and substance abuse testing for his/her and other students' health and safety. **Parents, or students over the age of 18, are responsible for the cost of the initial test if the results are positive. They are also responsible for the cost of any subsequent**

tests.

10. Evaluation Services

Students suspected of being affected by alcohol or drug abuse must be evaluated by the following"

- a. Medical physical examination, including drug screening, by a licensed physician to diagnose the influence of drugs or alcohol. **Parents, or students over the age of 18, are responsible for the cost of the initial test if the results are positive. They are also responsible for the cost of any subsequent tests.**
- b. Assessment by the C.S.A.C. regarding referral to the appropriate Agency.

11. Intervention and Treatment

Intervention and treatment will be provided by a certified student assistance counselor and/or individuals appropriately certified by the State of New Jersey. These programs shall include:

- a. referral to the appropriate agency
- b. instruction and counseling
- c. provisions for support services
- d. a special class if necessary

Confidentiality Regarding Intervention and Treatment Programs

All information concerning a student's involvement in a school intervention program will be confidential.

12. Educational Programs

The district will offer appropriate educational programs at convenient times and locations for the parent/guardian.

13. Anabolic Steroids

- a. Any suspicion of the use of anabolic steroids observed by a teaching staff member/coach must be reported to the school nurse, medical inspector, substance abuse coordinator, vice principal and the principal.
- b. The principal/vice principal should first notify the Superintendent and parent/guardian. He/she shall then arrange for a medical examination and drug screening by a licensed physician. The pupil should be examined as soon as possible to diagnose the use of anabolic steroids. **Parents, or students over the age of 18, are responsible for the cost of the initial test if the results are positive. They are also responsible for the cost of any subsequent tests.**
- c. A written report of the examination shall be furnished to the parent/guardian and to the superintendent and principal.
- d. If it is determined that the pupil is using anabolic steroids he/she will be interviewed by the substance abuse coordinator or another appropriately trained staff member to determine the extent of the pupil's involvement and need for treatment. The pupil's teachers and parents may be interviewed as part of this investigation. Outside experts may also be consulted.
- e. If it is determined that the pupil's involvement with these substances represents a danger to the pupil's health, safety and well-being, the pupil shall be referred to an appropriate

treatment program which has been approved by the Commissioner of Health.

14. Curriculum and Instruction

- a. The instructional program in grader K-6 shall incorporate alcohol and drug, anabolic steroid and tobacco education appropriate for the pupil's age and maturity.
- b. The instructional program in grades 7-12 shall include a minimum of ten hours per year of alcohol and other drug education, including tobacco and anabolic steroids.

15. The substance abuse policy will be reviewed at least once per year. The policy shall be made available to all staff, pupils, and parents/guardians annually.

16. Undercover Operation- The Board recognizes that the chief school administrator may request that law enforcement authorities conduct an undercover operation in the school with sufficient reason. The Chief school administrator is not permitted to ask the Board's approval for any aspect of the undercover operation until authorized to do so by law enforcement authorities.

The Board recognizes that any request for an undercover operation by law enforcement officials be made through the chief school administrator. Such a request is to be acted upon in a manner that he/she determines is in conformity with the law and is in the best interest of the students and the school district. A report of the undercover operation will be made to the Board by the chief School administrator at its completion.

17. Summoning Law Enforcement Authorities onto School Property

School employees should notify the principal who in turn will notify the chief school administrator of any belief that a student is using or distributing dangerous substances on school premises and the proper law enforcement authorities will be notified.

Whenever police are summoned to a school building for this type of incident the Board will be notified at the next meeting.

18. Student Search

Any search and/or seizure will be conducted within the standards prescribed in the United States Court in New Jersey v. T.L.O., U.S. 325 (1985).

If, as a result of the search, alcohol, drugs or drug paraphernalia are found the building principal will be immediately be notified. The principal will notify the chief school administrator who in turn will notify the appropriate law enforcement agency. The controlled substance is to be labeled and secured in a locked cabinet. The parents or guardian will then be notified.

Any interrogation deemed necessary will be done by law enforcement officials, in the presence of the parents or school officials, with parental consent.

19. Outline of Process

**Staff
Referral**

Principal,
Nurse, Designee

Parental
Notification

Immediate
Transport to:

School Physician
(by police
w/Staff member
or parent)

Private
Physician
(by Parent)

Hospital
Emergency Room
(by Police
w/Staff member
and parent if
available)

Forms (attached): Drug Screening w/Parental
Permission
District Verification (Hospital)

Proposed/Adopted: December 9, 1991
Revised: August 23, 1999
November 13, 2000
October 21, 2002

ENCLOSURE A

CHEMICAL SCREENING REPORT

To The Attending Physician:

New Jersey law (18A:40-4.1) requires an immediate medical examination **and substance abuse (drug/alcohol) screening** of any student thought to be under the influence of alcohol or a controlled dangerous substance. Please include the following in the screening:

Alcohol	Cocaine	Marijuana	Opiates
Amphetamines	Heroin	Mescaline	PCP
Barbiturates	LSD	Methodone	Tranquilizers

(Steroids if requested specifically)

The pupil shall be examined **immediately** for the purpose of diagnosing whether the pupil is under such influence.

A written report of the medical examination shall be furnished to the parent or guardians of the pupil, the principal and the chief school administrator by the examining physician within 24 hours. A written report concerning the results of the substance abuse screening should be sent to the district within 72 hours.

Dr. Frank A. Cocchiola, Jr
Superintendent of Schools
Jefferson School
Pine Street
Wallington, New Jersey 07057

RELEASE VERIFICATION

I give my permission for the physician to release the results of these tests to _____.
Principal/Designee

The purpose of such disclosure is to aid in an assessment and appropriate referral, if necessary. I understand this information is confidential and will not be made part of the permanent school record.

(Parent/Guardian, Please Print)

(Student)

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Dear Medical Service Provider,

This is to certify that the bearer is requesting a medical examination and drug/alcohol testing under the authority of the Wallington Public School District. A staff member should be in attendance if this is an emergency room matter. If a student's personal physician is providing the service, the visit must have been preceded by a telephone call from an authorized school official (i.e. principal, vice-principal, nurse or superintendent of schools).

The cost of the medical examination and substance abuse testing will be paid by the school district. If positive, the parent will reimburse the school.

If you have any questions regarding this matter please call either of the school officials listed.

Dr. Frank A. Cocchiola, Jr. (973) 777-4421 (W), (973) 667-0072 (H)
Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Joseph Pompeo (973) 777-6141 (W), (201) 930-0895 (H)
Wallington Jr./Sr. High School Principal

Mr. Gary Kicinski (973) 777-0808 (W), (201) 751-4521 (H)
Wallington Jr./Sr. High School Vice-Principal

Mrs. Mary Bartlett (973) 777-0808 (W), (973) 473-7316 (H)
Nurse

Ms. Nancy Giambrone (973) 777-4420 (W), (201) 274-4890 (H)
Wallington Elementary School Principal

Mr. Darcy Kordosky (973) 773-0282 (W)
Wallington Elementary School Vice-Principal

Very truly yours,

Dr. Frank A. Cocchiola, Jr.
Superintendent of Schools

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