

ALCOHOL / TOXIC SUBSTANCE FREE ENVIRONMENT

Background

Student possession and/or use of alcohol, toxic substances, or any substances in an abusive manner, in the context of any school-related activity, is detrimental to a healthy and effective learning environment. Such behavior is therefore prohibited and shall be considered a major offense and dealt with firmly, with consequences up to and including expulsion from school.

Procedures

1. All Division facilities, school grounds and school buses shall be free from use of alcohol, tobacco, vaporizers, marijuana, toxic substances or any substances used in an abusive manner.
2. Each school community shall ensure continuity in curriculum programming to the extent that students shall have access to a health and/or drug and alcohol awareness education program which deals in part with the effects of the individual and on society of alcohol and/or toxic substance use and abuse. Family school liaison workers and educational consultants are available to assist in the development and implementation of educational and preventative programs.
3. In situations involving the alleged or suspected student use of alcohol or toxic substances, the following actions shall be taken:
 - 3.1 Students suspected of being under the influence or in possession of alcohol or toxic substances, while in attendance at school or at a school-sponsored activity, shall immediately be reported to the Principal.
 - 3.2 The Principal shall investigate and, if he/she determines that there are reasonable grounds to show policy and procedures have been violated, shall suspend the student.
 - 3.3 The incident shall be recorded and the parent and Superintendent shall be advised, in writing, of the circumstances and the actions taken and/or recommended.
 - 3.4 The Principal may recommend to the Superintendent that the student be expelled from school.
 - 3.5 In accordance with the law, any incidents of trafficking alcohol or toxic substances shall be reported to the local police authorities.
4. Any student identified in procedure 3 may be asked to pursue individual and/or family counselling, related to alcohol and toxic substance use and abuse, as a condition of his/her return to regular school programming. It is strongly recommended that schools and students adhere to this action before the reinstatement of students suspended for reasons related to this administrative procedure.
5. A student whose behavior during alcohol or substance related incidents becomes abusive, or one who is a repeat offender under this administrative procedure, shall be subject to more stringent disciplinary action.
6. Individualized student contracts describing behavior expectations may be developed for exceptional students or students attending outreach programs that identify and highlight student supports and consequences.

Reference: Section 20, 45, 60, 61, School Act
Gaming and Liquor Act