

TEACHING ABOUT DRUGS, ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO

In accordance with state and federal law, the District shall provide age-appropriate, developmentally based drug, tobacco, and alcohol education and prevention programs in grades K-12.

The drug, tobacco, and alcohol education program shall address the legal, social, and health consequences of drug, tobacco, and alcohol use. It shall include special instruction as to the effects upon the human system; the emotional, psychological and social dangers of such use with emphasis on non-use by school age children and the illegal aspects of such use. The program also shall include information about effective techniques for resisting peer pressure to use illicit drugs, tobacco, or alcohol.

The objectives of this program, as stated below, are rooted in the Regional School Committee's belief that prevention requires education, and that the most important aspect of the policies and guidelines of the District should be the education of each individual to the dangers of drugs, alcohol, and tobacco.

- To create an awareness of the total drug problem - - prevention, education, treatment, rehabilitation, and law enforcement on the local, state, national and international levels.
- To relate the use of drugs and alcohol to physical, mental, social and emotional practices.
- To develop the student's ability to make intelligent choices based on facts and to develop the courage to stand by one's own convictions
- To prevent, delay, and/or reduce alcohol, tobacco, and drug use among children and youth.
- To understand the personal, social and economic problems causing the misuse of drugs and alcohol.
- To increase students' understanding of the legal, social, and health consequences of alcohol, tobacco, and drug use.
- To develop an interest in preventing illegal use of drugs in the community.

The policy, and any standards and rules enforcing the policy, shall be prescribed by the school committee in conjunction with the superintendent.

This policy shall be posted on the district's website and notice shall be provided to all students and parents in accordance with state law. Additionally, the district shall file a copy of this policy with DESE in accordance with law in a manner requested by DESE.
LEGAL REF: M.G.L. 71:1