

# Foster School District

## Policy # 4114

### Substance Abuse

#### PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to establish expectations, procedures, and consequences necessary to provide a drug and alcohol free environment for its students.

#### PHILOSOPHY:

The Foster School Committee realizes that the policy must maintain a balance between compassion for and aid to students/staff suffering from substance abuse and protection of the academic environment of students who wish to learn. Criminal activity is not to be tolerated on school property and disruptive behavior must be controlled.

Violation of the District's Substance Abuse Policy will be defined as the use, possession, distribution or being under the influence of any legal, but unauthorized or non-prescribed substance, such as prescription or non-prescription drugs on school property or its surroundings, school buses, bus stops, or any school sponsored or school related events or activities.

Offending students/staff will be dealt with firmly and swiftly within the guidelines of their due process rights.

The District will provide, without penalties, assistance to any student voluntarily seeking drug and alcohol treatment or advise.

#### 1. STUDENTS

##### CONSEQUENCES:

Possession, use or being under the influence of illegal or unauthorized substances:

1. Informal hearing with administrator
2. Custody of the evidence
3. Parent notification
4. Police notification
5. Five day home suspension
6. Recommendation for counseling

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SECOND OFFENSE:

1. Informal hearing with administrator
2. Custody of the evidence
3. Parent notification
4. Police notification and prosecution recommended
5. Nine day home suspension
6. Participation in a drug counseling program, at the parent's expense, through an outside agency may be acceptable as an alternative to prosecution

THIRD OFFENSE:

1. Repeat consequences for second offense, numbers one through six
2. Refer to School Committee for suspension for the remainder of the school year

DISTRIBUTION OF ANY ILLEGAL OR UNAUTHORIZED SUBSTANCES

1. Informal hearing with the administrator
2. Custody of the evidence
3. Parent notification
4. Police notification and prosecution recommended
5. Nine day home suspension
6. Participation in a drug-counseling program, at the parent's expense, through an outside agency may be acceptable as an alternative to prosecution.

SECOND OFFENSE:

1. Repeat consequences for first offense, numbers one through six
2. Refer to School Committee for suspension for the remainder of the school year

II. STAFF

In the event that an employee is found to be under the influence of illegal or unauthorized substances or is distributing such substances, the following shall occur:

1. Police notification
2. Suspension from his/her position (with pay)
3. Possible termination from position

Adopted: 26 September 1989

Reviewed: 26 April 2005