

Hamilton County Board of Education

Monitoring: Review: Annually, in April	Descriptor Term: Alcohol and Drug Use	Descriptor Code: 6.307	Issued Date: 12/16/04
		Rescinds:	Issued:

In order to protect the rights of students, to safeguard the learning environment, and to contribute to a “Drug Free” community, the Board’s plan for dealing with alcohol and drugs¹ shall include the following:

1. Appropriate ways for handling alcohol/drug-related medical emergencies;
2. Guidelines for reporting alcohol/drug incidents and illegal activities;
3. Guidelines for referral of students who may have an alcohol/drug problem and/or are considered "high risk" to agencies and other sources of appropriate help;
4. Effective working relationships with appropriate community agencies, such as alcohol/drug service providers, law enforcement agencies and judicial officials.

Through the use of state guidelines the director of schools shall be responsible for:

1. Developing and implementing an appropriate curriculum on alcohol and drug education for students;
2. Providing adequate information and training for all staff personnel as appropriate to their responsibilities;
3. Implementing the relevant portions of the Drug-Free Youth Act² by:
 - a. Informing all students in grades seven (7) through twelve (12) of its provisions;
 - b. Distributing to all such students a pamphlet describing the law;
 - c. Including the teaching of the components of the law in the annual pre-school year in-service training for teachers and principals; and
4. Developing administrative rules and guidelines for the school system to effectively respond to alcohol and drug situations that may occur at school or school-sponsored events.

Students will not possess, distribute or be under the influence of illegal drugs or alcoholic beverages in school buildings or on school grounds, in school vehicles or buses, or at any school-sponsored activity at any time, whether on or off school grounds.

Students will not market or distribute any substance which is represented to be or is substantially similar in color, shape, size or markings to a controlled substance in school buildings or on school grounds, in school vehicles or buses, or at any school-sponsored activity at any time, whether on or off school grounds.³

Upon information that a student is suspected of violating this policy, the principal of the school shall be notified immediately. If it is determined that board policy has indeed been violated, the principal shall notify the student’s parent or guardian and the appropriate law enforcement officials.⁴ A student who unlawfully possesses any narcotic, stimulant, prescription drug or other controlled substance shall be subject to suspension for a period of not less than one (1) calendar year. The director of schools shall have the authority to modify this suspension requirement on a case-by-case basis. ⁵

Legal References:

1. TRR/MS 0520-1-3-.08(2)(d)
2. TCA 55-10-701 et seq.
3. TCA 39-17-417
4. TCA 49-6-4209
5. TCA 49-6-4018

Cross References:

- Drug-Free Workplace 1.804
Suspensions 6.316