

Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES Policy

Series 6000 – Students

Policy #6220 – ALCOHOL, DRUGS AND OTHER SUBSTANCES (STUDENTS)

The Board encourages cooperation with other community agencies and groups in preventing drug and alcohol abuse. Provision shall be made for instructing employees and students in alcohol, drug and tobacco abuse and prevention. All laws pertaining to drug and alcohol use and possession shall be honored by students, adults, and adult students while on BOCES owned or leased premises or at BOCES-sponsored activities, regardless of the location of the activity.

The Board recognizes that the issue of drugs and/or alcohol is a serious problem with legal, physical, emotional and social implications for the entire community.

Possessing, consuming, selling, distributing, using, sharing, exchanging, manufacturing, or under the influence or appear under the influence of: a) alcoholic beverages in any form such as a powdered alcohol; b) e-cigarettes, or vaporizers or a similar instrument; c) illegal substances, or a substance thought by the student to be illegal; or d) being under the influence of either. “Illegal substances” includes, but is not limited to, inhalants, marijuana, opioids, cocaine, LSD, PCP, amphetamines, heroin, steroids, look-alike drugs, and any substances commonly referred to as “designer drugs.” The police will be called in these instances.

Using, selling, distributing, sharing, possessing, consuming, exchanging, manufacturing, being under the influence of, prescription and/or over-the-counter drugs or substances thought by the student to be over-the-counter or prescription drugs.

Using, selling, distributing, sharing, possessing, consuming, exchanging, manufacturing, or being under the influence of legal substances that mimic the effects of an illegal substance, or any prescription marijuana.

Possessing, using, selling, sharing, distributing, manufacturing, or exchanging drug paraphernalia or items that could be used as drug paraphernalia. Drug paraphernalia includes but is not limited to any kind of equipment, product, or material intended to be used for or used for the manufacturing, compounding, converting, concealing, producing, processing, preparing, injecting, ingesting, or inhaling such as lighters, matches, drops in e-cigarettes and vaporizers, “dab,” “dabs,” or dab pens.

Through the collaborative efforts of staff, students, parents/guardians and the community as a whole, a certifiable comprehensive program shall be developed addressing alcohol and other substances to include the following elements:

Primary Prevention

Preventing or delaying alcohol and other substance use/abuse by students shall be the major focus of a comprehensive program in which proactive measures of prevention and early intervention are emphasized. This program shall include:

- a) A sequential curriculum that will be developed and incorporated into the total educational process. This curriculum shall be concerned with education and prevention in all areas of alcohol and other substances uses/abuses.

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- b) Training school personnel and parents/guardians to reinforce the components of the policy through in-service and community education programs with up-to-date factual information and materials.
- c) An effort to provide positive alternatives to alcohol and other substances use/abuse through the promotion of drug/alcohol-free special events, service projects and extracurricular activities that will develop a positive peer influence.

Drug and Alcohol-Free Education and Prevention Program

In support of the BOCES interest in the health and well-being of BOCES students and employees, and its commitment to a drug and alcohol-free learning and work environment, provision shall be made for a Drug and Alcohol-Free Education and Prevention Program for students enrolled in a BOCES program full-time and employees. (Refer also to Policy #7113 -- Prevention Instruction.)

Intervention

School-based intervention services shall be made available to all students and provided by prevention professionals who are appropriately trained in this area. The purpose of intervention is to eliminate any existing use/abuse of alcohol and other substances and to identify students considered to be at risk for use/abuse. Intervention programming shall include:

- a) Counseling of students in groups and as individuals on alcohol and other substance use/abuse. Counselors shall be appropriately trained and skilled school staff assigned for this purpose.
- b) Referring student to community or other outside agencies when their use/abuse of alcohol and other substances requires additional counseling or treatment. Referral is a key link in school and community efforts and the process is basic to the dissemination of information regarding available counseling and health services.
- c) Providing a supportive school environment designed to continue the recovery process for students returning from treatment. A re-entry program may include continuing student and/or family counseling and emphasizing positive alternatives to alcohol and other substance use/abuse.
- d) Providing a network of outside community agencies to serve as a support group.
- e) Ensuring confidentiality as required by state and federal law.

Disciplinary Measures

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Staff Development

There shall be ongoing training of BOCES staff about the components of an effective alcohol and other substances program. Training shall include, but not be limited to, BOCES policies and regulations and the staff’s role in implementing such policies, and regulations. Teachers shall be trained to implement the alcohol and other substance prevention curricula; intervention staff shall be suitably trained to carry out appropriate services.

Implementation, Dissemination and Monitoring

It shall be the responsibility of the District Superintendent to implement the alcohol and other substances BOCES policy by collaboration with appropriate individuals including school personnel, students and parents/guardians.

Additionally, copies of the Board policy will be made available to BOCES staff and parents/guardians. The District Superintendent/designee shall triennially review the drug and alcohol abuse prevention program to determine its effectiveness and support appropriate modifications, as needed.

Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendment of 1989 (Public Law 101-226)

20 United States Code (U.S.C.) Section 3171 et seq.

Policy References:

Refer also to Policy #5160 -- Alcohol, Drugs and Other Substances (School Personnel).

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