

Franklin Special Board of Education

Monitoring: Review: Annually, in April	Descriptor Term: Alcohol and Drug Use	Descriptor Code: 6.3071	Issued Date: 08/15/00
		Rescinds: 6.3071	Issued: 09/14/98

1 **PREFACE**

2
3 This policy and its associated guidelines are an effort by the school district to respond effectively to the
4 potential and current use and abuse of alcohol and drugs by members of the school population.
5

6 **STATEMENT OF POLICY**

7
8 The school district will work through curriculum and classroom activity, administrative and faculty
9 effort, and disciplinary procedures to prevent and intervene in the abuse of alcohol and drugs by
10 members of the school population.
11

12 These guidelines and rules have been created as one part of the alcohol and drug policy. They are intended
13 to provide a consistent means to effectively respond to alcohol and drug situations which may occur at
14 school or in off campus settings related to school (such as travel to and from school) or at school-sponsored
15 events. They have been written with due consideration for legal rights and responsibilities of administrators,
16 faculty, students and parents who may find themselves involved in such situations.
17

18 **INVESTIGATIONS**

19
20 Whenever there is any reasonable suspicion of alcohol or drug abuse, the principal or the principals' designee
21 should be involved in the investigation. The investigation may include a search, and should almost always
22 include questioning of the students involved.
23

24 A student's locker is considered school property and may be searched at any time. At times, it will be
25 necessary to search the student's belongings or person. Although the student's consent is not required when
26 there is reasonable suspicion that the search will result in the discovery of alcohol, drugs, or paraphernalia,
27 the school official should always first request that the student volunteer any drugs, substances, or
28 paraphernalia. Any search should be conducted in the presence of another school staff member or the
29 student's parent as a witness.
30

31 **CONFIDENTIALITY**

32
33 The privacy of student should be respected. Communication regarding alcohol and drug situations that
34 call for referral or disciplinary action should be limited to those individuals who need to know, as suggested
35 in the following guidelines.
36

37 **SITUATIONS AND RESPONSES**

- 38
39 **1. Student volunteers information about his own alcohol or drug use or seeks help.**
40
41

1 *Immediate Action*

2
3 A staff member may report such an incident to or request advice from the school counselor or
4 nurse, or another staff member trained in alcohol and drug resources. The student should be fully
5 informed of services that are available, his rights to receive the service and of the confidentiality
6 to which he is entitled. The student should be encouraged to seek such help. Any staff member
7 involved in this circumstance is obligated to guard the confidentiality of the student.

8
9 *Notification of Parent*

10
11 Notification of parent is not required. Parent involvement should be the discretion of the student
12 unless there appears any danger to student or others.

13
14 *Discipline*

15
16 The is no need for disciplinary action in this situation.

17
18 *Notification of Police*

19
20 Involvement of law enforcement is not warranted in this situation.

21
22 Comment: All staff should be informed about their rights and responsibilities in this situation.
23 Too often, fear of liability prevents a staff member from becoming involved.
24 Accurate information and referral procedures should be provided to all staff
25 members.

26
27 **2. Students expresses concern about possible use/abuse of alcohol or drugs by an unnamed**
28 **"friend."**

29
30 *Immediate Action*

31
32 Any response must be made in consideration of the indirect source of the information. Such a
33 student should be encouraged to relay information about help and student rights to the student with
34 the problem.

35
36 *Notification of Parent*

37
38 Notification of parent is not required. Such information will generally be maintained on a one-
39 to-one basis, although the school counselor, nurse, or staff member trained in alcohol and drug
40 resources may be contacted.

41
42 *Discipline*

43
44 There is no need for disciplinary action in this situation.

45
46 *Notification of Police*

47
48 Involvement of law enforcement is not warranted in this situation.

1
2 *Intervention*

3
4 The student who contacts a staff member should be encouraged to persuade the student with the
5 problem to contact someone who can help.

6
7 Comment: I must be remembered that a student who discusses a "friend" may be looking for
8 help himself. Staff should be aware of this possibility and the likelihood that they
9 are being tested as a source of help. A positive approach is important. A familiarity
10 with appropriate responses will be helpful.

11
12 **3. Student expresses concern about possible use/abuse of alcohol or drugs by another student
13 and provides the student's name for the purpose of getting help for him.**

14
15 *Immediate Action*

16
17 The staff person should encourage the student who contacted him to try and persuade the named
18 student to contact the staff member directly, or to contact a staff member designated as trained
19 in alcohol and drug resources.

20
21 If the named student initiates contact with a staff member concerning his own alcohol or drug use,
22 the staff member contacted should follow procedures outlined in situation No. 1.

23
24 *Notification of Parent*

25
26 Notification of parent is not required. Parent involvement should be at the discretion of the student
27 unless there appears any danger to student or others.

28
29 *Discipline*

30
31 There is no need for disciplinary action in this situation.

32
33 *Notification of Police*

34
35 Involvement of law enforcement is not warranted in this situation.

36
37 *Intervention*

38
39 If the first student was unsuccessful at getting the named student to seek assistance directly, the
40 staff member should initiate the contact to discuss the concern and/or refer the student to a staff
41 member trained in alcohol and drug resources. The student should be fully informed of services
42 that are available, his right to receive the service, and of the confidentiality to which he is entitled.
43 The student should be encouraged to seek such help. Any staff member involved in this circumstance
44 is obligated to guard the confidentiality of the student.

45
46 Comment: The confidentiality of information in this case is the responsibility of the staff
47 member who has been contacted. No contact further than the school counselor,
48 school nurse, or staff member trained in alcohol and drug resources should be made.

- 1 **4. Student demonstrates some of the signs of possible alcohol or drug involvement (such as**
2 **sudden drop in grades, change of friends, abrupt mood swings, etc.) but no evidence of**
3 **immediate danger to self or others.**

4
5 *Immediate Action*

6
7 The student should be encouraged to seek available assistance through the school counselor or
8 another staff member trained in resources for youth. The staff member is obligated to respect
9 the confidentiality right of the student.

10
11 *Notification of Parent*

12
13 Notification of parent about possible alcohol or drug use is not required in this situation. Parent
14 involvement should be at the discretion of the student.

15
16 *Discipline*

17
18 Discipline is not warranted in this situation.

19
20 *Notification of Police*

21
22 Involvement of law enforcement is not warranted.

23
24 *Intervention*

25
26 Early intervention services for high risk youth may be appropriate in this situation.

27
28 Comment: Although it is not always clear how far a school may go in this situation, these
29 recommendations take into consideration the strong potential for misinterpretation
30 of a student's behavior as actual drug use.

- 31
32 **5. Student is impaired and drug or alcohol use is suspected.**

33
34 *Immediate Action*

35
36 All standard health and first aid procedures will be followed. The school nurse, or staff member
37 responsible for handling medical emergencies, should be summoned immediately. The student
38 should not be left alone. If the student must be taken to a medical facility, he will be accompanied
39 by a designed of the principal.

40
41 The student should be questioned about his drug ingestion and an immediate effort should be made
42 to ascertain the names of other students who may be exposed to drugs and/or alcohol and the
43 location of any remaining quantities of these substances. A reasonable effort should be made
44 to obtain the unused substances before they can be ingested by other students.

45
46 *Notification of Parent*

47
48 Parents will immediately be notified of the incident as a health problem or medical emergency.

1 Notification will include a description of the situation and the symptoms; the parent will also be
2 notified of the student's suspension in accordance with the Franklin Special District disciplinary
3 procedures and paragraph on (5) Discipline below.
4

5 *Disposition of Substances*
6

7 Any drugs discovered in an emergency situation should be turned over by the school principal or
8 the principal's designee to medical personnel for identification and aid in the treatment of the
9 emergency. In all other situation, drugs and /or paraphernalia will be turned over to police.
10

11 *Discipline*
12

13 Evidence of drug and/or alcohol ingestion at school or causing a student to be impaired at
14 school is a violation of this Board's zero tolerance policy. The student shall be disciplined
15 under the procedures of policy 6.302.
16

17 *Notification of Police*
18

19 Tennessee law requires notification of police in any situation where there is evidence of the
20 possession of drugs in school. This reporting requirement includes submitting the name of the
21 student to the police. In emergency situations, police will be notified that drugs were turned over
22 to medical personnel.
23

24 *Intervention*
25

26 The school will recommend to the parent that the student be assessed to determine the extent of
27 alcohol or drug involvement and the appropriated level of counseling or treatment needed.
28

- 29 **6. Student possesses alcohol or drugs at school, on the way to and from school, or at a school**
30 **sponsored event or activity, including legend or prescription drugs which have not been**
31 **prescribed for his personal use, or paraphernalia.**
32

33 *Immediate Action*
34

35 The staff member who discovers the drugs/paraphernalia will summon the principal, or designee,
36 or escort the student to the principal's office. The student will be interrogated and the student's
37 locker will be searched according to policy. The principal, or designee, will request that the student
38 empty his/her pockets or purse and volunteer all drugs and/or paraphernalia.
39

40 If the student refuses to cooperate, police may be called in to conduct a search.
41

42 *Notification of Parents*
43

44 The parent will be contacted immediately, the situation described, and a conference arranged. The
45 parent will be informed that the school is required by state law to report the incident to the police.
46
47
48

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49

Disposition of Substance

Substance will be sealed, documented and turned over to police with a request for analysis.

Discipline

Evidence of drug and/or alcohol ingestion at school or causing a student to be impaired at school is a violation of this Board's zero tolerance policy. The student shall be disciplined under the procedures of policy 6.302.