

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
CARSON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**POLICY No. 518
STUDENTS**

DRUG AND ALCOHOL USE/ABUSE

The Carson City School District recognizes that the primary responsibility of the School District is to provide for the education of its students to promote a full realization of their potential. While the District seeks to ensure the highest standard of learning in the classroom, we know that students cannot make full use of the total school program if they are involved with chemicals, which can seriously inhibit their normal development, their capacity to learn, and their ability to function effectively. The District acknowledges that student use of chemical substances, including alcohol and tobacco, is a problem of utmost concern in our community. The use of such substances often leads to dependency. While recognizing that health problems are primarily the responsibility of the home and family, the District is also concerned for the health, safety, and well being of the students.

Therefore, the District will provide a comprehensive substance abuse program which presents information and activities to encourage students to abstain from the use of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs; which creates a caring, nurturing environment in which clear limits and consequences are set; and which establishes an appropriate identification, intervention and referral program for students at risk. The District also recognizes the importance of the need for aftercare support for students who re-enter school after treatment. The success of this comprehensive program depends upon mutual involvement and cooperative relationships among students, parents, community, law enforcement and the schools.

Prevention

A. Instructional Programs

The Carson City School District will provide students with information and activities focused on preventing students from using alcohol and other drugs. The programs will address the legal, social and health consequences of alcohol and other drug use and will provide information about effective techniques for resisting peer pressure to use alcohol or other drugs. At appropriate age levels, students will be provided with current and accurate information regarding the physiological, legal, and psychological consequences of chemical use. Such instruction should be described in any curriculum guides of the District. Involvement of outside resource personnel, such as, law enforcement officers, medical personnel, and experts on the subject of alcohol and other drug abuse, will be encourage.

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B. Drug Advisory Committee

An advisory committee composed of school and community based members, such as teachers, counselors, administrators, law enforcement, juvenile probation, parents, and clergy, shall be formed. This committee will research, discuss, and implement prevention and intervention activities within the school and community.

C. Staff Training

The School District will encourage training for all staff members in the prevention curriculum and related topics, such as confidentiality, addiction, depression, co-dependency, suicide, and others.

Intervention

The Carson City School District will provide the resources enabling elementary and secondary schools to establish and maintain an intervention program, such as the Student Assistance Program (SAP). The purpose of the intervention program is the early identification of students who are at high risk for involvement with alcohol/drugs and other related behaviors, or who may have already developed a pattern of involvement.

A. Core Teams

Core teams will be implemented at all schools. Each team may consist of an administrator, a counselor, a nurse, at least two teachers, and one community agency representative, if possible.

Support groups will be established at all schools. The core team at each school will refer students to the support groups and will also monitor and assess the types of groups needed.

B. Discipline

Possession, use, sale, distribution, or being under the influence of alcohol or other drugs shall not be tolerated on school grounds, on School District-sponsored transportation, or at school-related activities. Disciplinary procedures for dealing with violations of the drug and alcohol policy are contained in the Drug and Alcohol Regulations for the Carson City School District. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) concerning the involvement of police with the schools will be developed between the School District and appropriate law enforcement agencies.

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C. Aftercare

The Carson City School District recognizes the ongoing nature of recovery from chemical dependency. Support services will be provided for students in recovery through training of staff in the areas of treatment and aftercare, the availability of support groups, and referral to community resources for ongoing support.

Adopted: August 29, 1979

Revised: April 14, 1992

October 9, 2012 - Title Change