

Integrated Day Charter School
Governing Board



Policy Series: 5000

Policy Number: 5131.6

Students

Alcohol, Drugs and Tobacco

Alcohol and Drugs

The Integrated Day Charter School (IDCS) recognizes the harmful effect that substance abuse can have on a student. For this reason, a student on school grounds or at a school-sponsored activity at any time or at any location who is under the influence of alcohol, drugs or mood-altering substances or possesses, uses, manufactures, dispenses, sells or aids in the procurement of alcohol, narcotics, restricted drugs, mood-altering substances, or any substance purported to be a restricted substance or over-the-counter drug, shall be subjected to discipline pursuant to the IDCS Governing Board policies and regulations.

The IDCS will, in a coordinated effort, attempt to respond openly and effectively to the uses and abuses of drugs, alcohol and mood-altering substances by support and resource services, such as those provided by a licensed drug and alcohol facility, the school nurse, a doctor on call and the school social worker, and strong, consistent administrative rehabilitative and disciplinary procedures, will work to educate, prevent and intervene in the use and abuse of all drug, alcohol and mood altering substance by its population.

Tobacco

It has been more than 20 years since the U.S. Surgeon General first announced a clear link between cigarette smoking and such diseases as lung cancer, emphysema, and heart disease. Cigarette smoking causes nearly a half million deaths each year--1 in 4 Americans according to the Cancer Society. Cigarette smoking is the "single most preventable cause of cancer and the single most preventable cause of disease." Our school health curriculum teaches youth the physical hazards of smoking and the use of tobacco products and that it is illegal substance for those under 18 years of age.

In the face of overwhelming evidence about smoking as a health hazard, and in keeping with the teachings in our school curriculum, and as a further deterrent and prevention against smoking by young persons, the IDCS Governing Board institutes the following policy:

1. Smoking and the use of tobacco products is prohibited in school buildings, at school activities, and on school buses at all times. The school is a "Drug-Free School Zone."
2. Smoking and the use of tobacco is prohibited on school grounds while school is in session.
3. Visible display and/or possession of tobacco products by students is prohibited on school property.

School Guidelines

As an extension of this policy, the IDCS Governing Board directs the Director to develop guidelines to be used by all school personnel in responding to drug, mood-altering substance, and alcohol-related situations.

As an integral part of the IDCS, Tobacco, Alcohol and Other Drug guidelines represent one component, in a district-wide effort to respond effectively to tobacco, drug, mood-altering substance and alcohol-related situations that may occur at school or at school-sponsored activities. These guidelines are also intended to

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provide a consistent minimum disciplinary means to respond to tobacco, alcohol and other drug-related incidents. The IDCS will provide a safe and healthy environment for students with due consideration for their legal rights and responsibilities. The Governing Board reserves the right to use any extraordinary measures deemed necessary to control substance abuse even if the same is not provided specifically in any rule or regulation enumerated herein.

Instruction

Annually, each student will receive instruction emphasizing the effect of alcohol, nicotine, tobacco and drugs on health, character and personality development wherever appropriate in the health education program and such other contexts which touch on the subject.

Cooperation with Community and Parents

Any effort put forth by the IDCS to address alcohol, drugs and tobacco usage requires support from all parents and cooperation from the community in order to be effective.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

1-21b Smoking prohibited in certain places.

10a-18 Programs to be offered on effects of drugs and alcohol.

10-154a Professional communications between teacher or nurse and student. Surrender of physical evidence obtained from students.

10-221(d) Board of Education to prescribe rules re use, sale or possession.

10-223d Expulsion of pupils. Hearing format. Age limitation for the provision of an alternative educational opportunity; exceptions.

21a-240 Definitions, dependency producing drugs.

21a-243 Regulation re schedules of controlled substances.

21a-277 Penalty for illegal manufacture, distribution, sale, prescription, dispensing.

21a-278 Penalty for illegal manufacture, distribution, sale, prescription or administration by non-drug-dependent person.