

CHEMICAL HEALTH

The Bangor School Department recognizes chemical dependency as a disease and the use of any substance which alters perception or behavior reducing that individual's ability to function appropriately in the academic environment as a significant health problem which results in negative effects on behavior, learning, and the total development of each individual.

To this end, the following policy and procedures will:

- a. reflect a position of zero tolerance of substance abuse
- b. emphasize the Department's concern for the health and safety of its students
- c. address physical and emotional effects of chemical use
- d. support existing laws regarding chemical use and abuse
- e. assist students to resist pressure which directs them towards the use of any substance which alters perception or behavior including mood-altering chemicals
- f. refer students for assistance and evaluation regarding their use of any substance which alters perception or behavior including mood-altering chemicals
- g. establish disciplinary procedures regarding use, possession, and distribution of any substance which alters perception or behavior including mood-altering chemicals
- h. insure that the student's right to confidentiality is protected at all times
- i. create Student Support Teams (SST) in each school

The SST will meet on a case referral basis and will be used to provide assistance to students who are having difficulties with chemical use. The SST will not be used for disciplinary purposes. No formal records will be maintained in the student's cumulative folder.

The Student Support Team (SST) shall consist of the following members:

Chemical Health Support Person (where applicable)
Principal or Assistant Principal
School Social Worker
School Psychological Service Provider
Student's Guidance Counselor
School Nurse
Faculty representative(s) designated by the principal



The functions of SST shall include, but shall not be limited to the following:

1. review assessments made by the chemical health support person or other service provider
2. develop plans for students referred to the team
3. recommend participation in chemical health education programs
4. recommend participation in school-based support groups
5. recommend non-clinical assessments
6. recommend and facilitate referrals for clinical/medical assessments
7. act as a liaison among treatment facilities, parents, and the school
8. provide information to school staff and parents when appropriate
9. insure the student's right to privacy and confidentiality

When an SST is convened, the student and his/her parent(s) will be invited. Parents and students will be encouraged to participate in the SST process. All recommendations of the SST will be referred to the administration which will monitor their implementation.

RULES

1. During the school year, a student shall not use a beverage containing alcohol; or use, have in possession, buy, sell, or give away alcohol or any substance defined by law as a scheduled drug, a counterfeit drug, or an imitation scheduled drug. This rule will also apply to drug paraphernalia, look-alike drugs, and any substance which alters perception or behavior reducing that individual's ability to function appropriately in the academic environment and will be in effect on school property and at school-sponsored functions (including transportation provided by the Bangor School Department to and from facilities).
2. During the season of practice, play, rehearsal, or duration of any extra-or co-curricular activity (including athletics), a student shall at no time use a beverage containing alcohol; or use, have in possession, buy, sell, or give away alcohol or any substance defined by law as a scheduled drug, a counterfeit drug, or an imitation drug. This rule will also apply to drug paraphernalia and look-alike drugs and any substance which alters perception or behavior reducing that individual's ability to function appropriately in the academic environment.
3. Students in grades 6-12 who are involved in interscholastic activities and/or other extra- or co-curricular activities will sign a contract the terms of which will be consistent with this policy.
4. It is not a violation for a student to be in possession or a legally defined drug specifically prescribed for the student's own use by his/her doctor as long as the student's possession is in compliance with Policy JHCD Administering Medication to Students in School.



PROCEDURES FOR INTERVENTION IN CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY CASES

Type I - All Disciplinary Referrals

1. Document the incident.
2. Notify the administration of the incident.
3. Administrator meets with student and discusses concerns.
4. Administrator notifies parent(s).
5. Administrator notifies Superintendent and follows appropriate legal avenues pertaining to possession of illegal substances by a minor.

First Offense: Possession or Use

1. The student will be suspended from the regular school program for up to 3 days. (Athletes and other students involved in extra- or co-curricular activities will be suspended from those activities for 2 calendar weeks.)
2. The student will be given a non-clinical assessment by a member of the Student Support Team.
3. The chemical health support person will make a report to the SST.
4. The SST will make recommendations to the administrator regarding appropriate action which is then communicated to the student and parent(s) by the administrator.
5. The student will be encouraged to follow all recommendations during the process. Students involved in athletics or other extra- or co-curricular activities who do not comply with the recommendations of the SST will be suspended from the team or activity for the remainder of the season or duration of the activity.

Second Offense: Possession or Use (During the Same School Year)

1. The student will be suspended from the regular school program for up to 5 days. (Athletes and other students involved in extra- or co-curricular activities will also be suspended for the remainder of the season or the duration of the activity.)
2. Parents will meet with the administrator and the SST.
3. A clinical/medical assessment will be recommended (for those in extra- or co-curricular activities, this must take place before participation in another activity; failure to comply will lead to suspension from all activities for the remainder of the year).
4. The student will be encouraged to follow all recommendations made during the process. Failure to comply may result in a recommendation for expulsion.



Third Offense: Possession or Use (During the Same School Year)

1. Administrator recommends expulsion.
2. SST recommends a clinical/medical assessment.

NOTE: If parent(s) do not follow all recommendations during the process, a referral may be made to the Department of Human Services.

Type II - Concerned Person Referral

1. The concerned person shares his/her concern with a member of the SST who directs the referral to the chemical health support person.
2. The chemical health support person consults with others who know the student to assess behavior if applicable (student's right to confidentiality is protected).
3. Chemical health support person meets with student, if appropriate, to share concerns and review information and policies. (If student acknowledges problem, follow Type III, Self-Referral, First Report, and omit steps 4-6 below; if not proceed to step 4.)
4. Chemical health support person begins non-clinical assessment if appropriate.
5. Chemical health support person notifies parent(s) if appropriate.
6. If appropriate, and with student's consent, chemical health support person meets with SST to develop plan with student.

Type III – Self-ReferralFirst Report:

1. The teacher/staff person talks with the student about the student's concern.
2. The teacher/staff person recommends a self referral to the chemical health support person or makes a concerned person referral. (For concerned person referral, follow Type II steps 2-5.)
3. The chemical health support person evaluates the student and reports to the SST if appropriate (if not appropriate, omits steps 4 and 5 below).
4. The SST develops a plan with the student based on the report of the chemical health support person.
5. The SST follows up to determine if the student is utilizing the resources effectively, and, if not, meets with the student to review the plan.

Second Report:

1. Same as First Report, steps 1 - 2.
2. Chemical health support person refers student to the SST.



3. The SST will make recommendations based on the report of the chemical health support person. The SST will recommend a clinical/medical assessment.
4. The student will be encouraged to follow all recommendations during the process. Students involved in athletics or other extra- or co-curricular activities who do not comply with the recommendations of the SST will be suspended from the team or activity for the remainder of the season or the duration of the activity.

Third and Subsequent Reports:

1. Same as Second Report, steps 1- 3.
2. Athletes and other students involved in extra-or co-curricular activities will be suspended for the remainder of the season or the duration of the activity.
3. For any reports beyond the third, the student will be suspended from all extra- and co-curricular activities for the remainder of the year.

Type IV - Selling or Furnishing

First Offense: (During the Same School Year)

1. Confiscate substance.
2. Document the incident and notify an administrator.
3. Administrator notifies parent(s), superintendent and police.
4. The student will be suspended from the regular school program for up to 10 days. (Athletes and other students, involved in extra- or co-curricular activities will be suspended from all activities for the remainder of the year.)
5. A recommendation will be made for expulsion for the remainder of the school year.

Second Offense: (During the Same School Year)

1. Same as First Offense, steps 1-3.
2. Refer to Bangor School Department Policy JFCI, Policy JGE, and Regulation JGE on expulsion. A recommendation will be made for permanent expulsion.

NOTE: If parent(s) do not follow the recommendations during the process, a referral may be made to the Department of Human Services.

SEARCH AND SEIZURE:

1. A search and seizure may be made based on reasonable suspicion and consistent with Federal law and the laws of the State of Maine.



MEDICAL EMERGENCY:

1. In the case of a medical emergency, the normal administrative procedures for medical emergencies will follow.
2. Once the medical emergency has been dealt with, the appropriate policy provision will be implemented.

ADMINISTRATIVE DISCRETION:

1. The administration shall have final discretion in the implementation of these rules and procedures.

ADOPTED: September 19, 1988

REVISION ADOPTED: December 16, 1996

REVISION ADOPTED: July 23, 2008

