

Drug and Alcohol Abuse by Students

Lake George Charter School shall promote a healthy environment for students by providing education, support, and decision-making skills in regard to alcohol, drugs and other controlled substances and their abuse. In order to accomplish this goal, a cooperative effort must be made among the school, parents/guardians, community, and its agencies.

It shall be a violation of Charter Board policy and considered to be behavior which is detrimental to the welfare or safety of other students or school personnel for any student to possess, use, sell, distribute, or procure or to be under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or other controlled substances. The unlawful possession or use of alcohol or controlled substances is wrong and harmful to students.

For purposes of this policy, controlled substances include but are not limited to narcotic drugs, hallucinogenic or mind-altering drugs or substances, amphetamines, barbiturates, stimulants, depressants, marijuana, anabolic steroids, any other controlled substances as defined in law, or any prescription or nonprescription drug, medicine, vitamin, or other chemical substances not taken in accordance with the Charter Board's policy and regulations on administering medications to students or state law regarding the administration of medical marijuana to qualified students.

This policy also includes substances that are represented by or to the student to be any such controlled substance or what the student believes to be any such substance.

This policy shall apply to any student on charter school property, being transported in vehicles dispatched by the charter school, during a school-sponsored activity or event, off school property when the conduct has a reasonable connection to the charter school or any curricular or non-curricular event, or whose conduct at any-time or place interferes with the operations of the charter school or the safety or welfare of students or employees.

Students violating this policy shall be subject to disciplinary sanctions which may include suspension and/or expulsion from school and referral for prosecution. Disciplinary sanctions and interventions for violations of this policy shall be in accordance with Charter Board policy concerning student suspensions, expulsions, and other disciplinary interventions.

Situations in which a student seeks counseling or information from a professional staff member for the purpose of overcoming substance abuse shall be handled on an individual basis depending upon the nature and particulars of the case. Parents shall be involved and effort made to direct the substance abuser to sources of help.

The Charter Board, in recognition that drug and alcohol abuse is a community problem, shall cooperate actively with law enforcement, social services, or other agencies and organizations, parents/guardians, and any other recognized community resources committed to reducing the incidents of illegal use of drugs and alcohol by school-aged youths.

Whenever possible in dealing with student problems associated with drug and alcohol abuse, charter school personnel shall provide parents/guardians, and students with information concerning education and rehabilitation programs which are available.

Information provided to students and/or parents about community substance abuse treatment programs or other resources shall be accompanied by a disclaimer to clarify that the charter school/school district assumes no financial responsibility for the expense of drug or alcohol assessment or treatment provided by other agencies or groups unless otherwise required.

- LEGAL REFS.: 20 U.S.C. §7101 (*Safe & Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1994*)
21 U.S.C. 812 (*definition of "controlled substance"*)
C.R.S. 18-18-407 (2), (*crime to sell, distribute, or possess controlled substance on or near school grounds or school bus*)
C.R.S. 22-1-110, (*instruction related to alcohol and drugs*)
C.R.S. 22-1-119.3 (3)(c)(d) (*no student possession or self-administration of medical marijuana, but school districts must permit the student's primary caregiver to administer medical marijuana to the student on school grounds, on a school bus, or at a school-sponsored event*)
C.R.S. 22-32-109.1 (2)(a) (I)(G) (*policy required as part of safe schools plan*)
C.R.S. 22-33-106 (12)(b) (*suspension or expulsion discretionary for the sale of drug or controlled substance*)
C.R.S. 25-1.5-106 (12)(b) (*possession or use of medical marijuana in or on school grounds or in a school bus is prohibited*)
C.R.S. 25-14-103.5 (*boards of education must adopt policies prohibiting use of retail marijuana on school property*)

- CROSS REFS.: GBEC, Drug and Alcohol Free Workplace
IHAMA, Teaching about Drugs, Alcohol, and Tobacco
JIH Student Interrogations, Searches, and Arrests
JK*-2 Discipline of Students with Disabilities
JKD/JKE Suspension/Expulsion of Students (and Other Disciplinary Interventions)
JLCD Administering Medications to Students

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Lake George Charter School