

C. Disciplinary Policies

1. Code of Student Conduct

g. Drug Free Schools Policy

The Narragansett School System recognizes that the use and/or abuse of controlled substances is a serious problem with legal, educational, physical, and social implications for the entire school community. As an educational entity, the Narragansett School System shall strive to prevent the abuse of controlled substances by establishing a policy to promote drug free schools.

Through the use of curriculum, classroom activities, positive administrative, faculty, and staff role modeling, rehabilitative and disciplinary procedures, parental collaboration, and community support; the Narragansett School System will work to prevent and intervene in the use and abuse of all mood-altering substances, alcohol, nicotine and other drugs not prescribed by a student's physician by the entire student population.

General Regulations

No student may use, abuse, possess, manufacture, sell, distribute, or be under the influence of any intoxicating or illegal substance; or be in the possession of any equipment or paraphernalia connected with the manufacture or use of any substance prohibited under this or any other School System regulation while on school property, school vehicles, at school activities, or at any school sponsored function.

This policy prohibits any student from being under the influence, using, possessing, manufacturing, distributing, or selling of any mood altering substances, alcohol, designer drugs, drug paraphernalia, nicotine devices and "vapes", look-alike drugs, volatile solvents/inhalants, drugs that have not been prescribed by the student's physician or performance enhancing drugs. In this policy, the term 'illegal substance' means controlled substances as that term is defined by federal and RIGL 21-28.5-1. Further, the term intoxicating substance means any material whose absorption into the tissues of the body effects the normal functioning of the nervous and muscular systems. Hence, this policy prohibits not only all use or possession of illegal substances and the implements of their use, but also, prohibits alcohol and any other substance, including medications, except when used as directed under prescription, whose use or misuse results in intoxication as defined above.

Investigative Procedure to Determine Reasonable Suspicion

If the school administration receives a report that a student is believed to be under the influence of or in possession of a controlled substance or alcohol, the administration will initiate an investigation to determine whether reasonable suspicion that the student is under the influence of or in possession of a controlled substance exists. The investigation may include, but is not limited to, interviewing the student, observing the student, inspection of the student's locker, and a preliminary physical examination by the school nurse. After completing the investigation, a school team comprised of one administrator, one guidance counselor, and the school nurse will determine whether reasonable suspicion exists that the student is under the influence of or in possession of a controlled substance or alcohol. If after reviewing the results of the investigation, the team determines reasonable suspicion exists, the administrator will notify the student's parents/guardians.

When the parents/guardians are notified of a violation of this policy, a conference will be held by the principal, or designee, with the parents/guardians informing them of the information known concerning the incident. As part of the conference/notification, both the student and parents/guardians will be informed of the availability of counseling services and community resources for treatment and prevention alternatives.

The administrator will notify the Narragansett Police Department concerning results of the investigation indicative of any illegal behavior on the part of the student.

The Narragansett School System will provide counseling referral to any student voluntarily seeking substance abuse treatment. Through our educational programs and working cooperatively with parents, our goal is to provide the information and knowledge that will enable our students to make substance abuse prevention decisions.

Violation of Policy

Violation of the Drug Free School Policy will result in discipline based upon individual circumstances up to and including suspension or expulsion from school. Participation in drug counseling, rehabilitation, testing or other programs may be required as a condition of reinstatement in to the school's education, extracurricular, or athletic programs for which the student has been excluded as a result of violations of this policy. Consequences may include:

- Parental notification
- In-school or outside counseling
- In-school disciplinary review
- Police notification
- Suspension
- Social Suspension
- Expulsion
- Removal from school

Any student attempting to sell or distribute illegal drugs, nicotine devices or “vapes or alcohol on school grounds may be subject to the following:

- Parental notification
- Police notification
- Suspension
- Expulsion

RIGL 21-28.5-1 – Definitions

Public Law 91-513 – Comprehensive Drug Abuse and Prevention and Control Act of 1970 and Amendments thereto

Public Law 233-64 – Controlled Substance, Drug, Device, and Cosmetic Act of 1972

Narragansett School System Policy: V. Students, D. Disciplinary Policies, 1. Code of Conduct, e. Suspension/Expulsion and f. Inspections

RIGL §11-9-13. Purchase, sale or delivery of tobacco products to persons under eighteen

Adopted: August 27, 1975

Revised: September 19, 1990

Amended: 1st Reading: March 15, 2006

Approved: April 12, 2006

Amended: 1st Reading: October 20, 2010

Approved: November 17, 2010

Amended: 1st Reading: January 17, 2018

Approved : January 17, 2018

Narragansett School System
Narragansett, Rhode Island