

CHAPTER 5

5.12 Substance Abuse Policy (Adopted November 30, 1989)

5.12.1 Philosophy (Revised November 30, 1989)

The Marshall County Board of Education recognizes that substance abuse among students is a serious societal problem. The Board also recognizes that the dependency stage of chemical use is a primary physical illness.

The use of chemical and other substances inhibits the achievement of the overall goals of the school system. The medical, physical and emotional problems created by the use of and dependency on chemical substances interfere with learning, development and safety of students.

While substance use and abuse by students is a societal problem brought to the school and results from factors present in the total community, the Marshall County Board of Education accepts the responsibility to work with the home, and community agencies to create a school environment free of chemical use, abuse and dependency within the student/staff environment.

In accepting this responsibility, the Board of Education reaffirms its policy that students determined to possess, use or sell chemical substances may be immediately suspended and recommended for expulsion as outlined in the Marshall County Suspension and Expulsion Policies. The superintendent retains the authority to handle disciplinary measures as deemed appropriate, but alternative measures to suspension/expulsion shall be available to provide assistance to students involved in chemical use, abuse and dependency.

The school system affirms its responsibility to offer guidance to chemically dependent students and their concerned families in seeking treatment.

The Board recognizes that these responsibilities cannot be fulfilled by the schools alone.

The assistance of other community agencies including the family, churches, law enforcement officials, health services, mental health agencies, treatment facilities and concerned citizens is solicited.

The Board further recognizes that drug abuse and dependency are progressive diseases. Intervention measures taken by the school shall begin with counseling and extend to referral to appropriate outside agencies including treatment centers and the courts.

Parents/Guardians may be notified of behavioral symptoms of chemical use and abuse noted in the student as defined by W. Va. Code 60A-5-504 (e)

1971-C.54 "C.21". Appropriate staff will meet with students and/or parents to discuss the nature and extent of the observable problem and to recommend remedial action to be recommended will be dependent on the attitude of the student, the cooperation of the parent(s) and the seriousness and frequency of the observable behaviors.

The administration will identify a team of key staff to develop appropriate strategies and procedures to fulfill the responsibilities enumerated above.

Within the funds available, staff, students, and other interested persons will be encouraged to develop skills for identifying and working with students, who have alcohol, drug use and dependency problems. Such training may include seminars, assemblies and workshops.

The search for solutions to the problems associated with substance use and abuse needs to be approached by society as a whole rather than by one institution. Therefore, the Board encourages and supports the sharing of approaches and programs with and among other districts and institutions.

5.12.2 Overall Goal (Revised November 30, 1989)

The main goal of Marshall County Schools Substance Abuse program is to systematically and professionally respond to student problems as they are manifested in the school in order to arrive at a caring school climate that will be conducive to education.

5.12.2.1 Specific Objectives (Revised November 30, 1989)

1. to provide public awareness and educational presentations to students which aim to inform students of dangers of drugs and also assist them in developing decision making skills and in promoting a positive self-esteem.
2. to provide identification and referral services, including consultation with appropriate community agencies.
3. to provide a continuum of counseling and intervention services.
4. to provide support groups in helping young people refrain from using alcohol and other hard drugs.
5. to provide co-curricular and extra-curricular activities.
6. to build a team personnel to work on chemical abuse dependency, and prevention issues.

7. to provide continual support throughout the recovery process.

5.12.3 Procedure For Dealing With Suspected Chemical Abuse (Revised November 30, 1989)

When a staff member suspects chemical use or dependency due to certain behaviors or patterns shown by a student, a referral to the core team chairperson should be completed. Referrals may also be received from parents, other students, or concerned community members.

1. The core team will distribute referral forms to all teachers on the student's schedule. This form shall be a behavioral observation checklist to gather data on the student. It is not to be used as an accusation or opinion poll, rather a simple method of recording actual observed behavior.
2. After the referral forms are returned to the core team chairperson, the core team shall review the data, keeping all information confidential. After reviewing the information, the following may occur:
 - a. no action--insufficient data to make decision
 - b. further collection of data and follow-up
 - c. conference with student and/or parents/guardians to discuss behavior. An assessment will be arranged if needed, or inclusion of the student into the insight group or counseling contract.
3. After assessment, action will be taken based on the results and recommendations from the assessment. These actions may include but aren't limited to:
 - a. counseling contract with student--number of sessions to be determined by the counselor. At least one of the sessions may include the parents/guardians.
 - b. inclusion of the student into a school-based insight group.
 - c. referral to an outside agency for counseling, out-patient treatment, or inpatient residential treatment.
4. Upon re-entry of any student completing treatment, that student shall be included in the school-based student insight group. This will be an essential component in the recovery process.
5. Follow-ups will be completed periodically and progress monitored. Further support services will be developed as needed.

NOTE: Marshall County suspension and expulsion policies may be enforced. The student may choose to participate in the procedures outlined above in lieu of the complete disciplinary procedures at the discretion of the principal. The principal may waive a portion of the suspension if the student and parents agree to the alternatives of the student assistance.

5.12.4 School Core Teams (Revised November 30, 1989)

The school core team should consist of a counselor, a principal or designee, and other trained staff members. The core team shall elect a chairperson. The core team shall implement procedures to insure confidentiality of information which shall not be made available to anyone except other core team members, the principal, and counselor on a need-to-know basis.

Meeting times and frequency will be determined at the local school level. Every effort should be made to have a set day and time for core team meetings. Adjustments would be made as necessary to best meet the needs of the student and staff.

5.12.5 School Property Inspection

In the interest of health and safety, all school properties may be inspected by proper school authorities.

5.12.5.1 Student Lockers

Lockers assigned to students are considered as property of Marshall County Schools and as such may reasonably be inspected.

As far as possible, the pupil assigned to the locker, along with two school staff members, should be present for the inspection. If circumstances do not permit the presence of the pupil during the inspection, at least two members of the school staff should conduct the inspection.

5.12.5.2 Other Property

All other property of Marshall County Schools shall be subject to inspection as cited in 5.12.5.1 this chapter.

Chapter V

5.12.6 West Virginia Career Technical Education – Workplace Simulation Drug Free Policy

Substance abuse is an epidemic both in West Virginia and across America. Recent information shows drug overdoses now kill more West Virginians than car accidents. Drugs are the leading cause of accidental deaths in our state, and we have the nation's highest rate of drug deaths. Even more alarming, 9 out of 10 of our overdose deaths involve at least one prescription drug. Drug abuse in our state is a pervasive problem with tragic consequences. It shatters families and erodes our communities. Governor Earl Ray Tomblin has made drug free workforce a priority. There is a clear correlation between academic/professional success and drug abuse.

The educational and drug testing program described in these materials is part of an overall workforce simulation program conducted in your local career technical programs. The goal is not to levy discipline but rather to aid in the discovery and prevention of possible drug related problems and to maintain a safe work environment for those operating heavy equipment, welding equipment, car hoists, as well as caring for patients and clients who may be ill or debilitated. A student using drugs is a danger for himself/herself as well as other students. For the secondary student, the key component of this program is to open the lines of communication between students and parents about the serious matter of drug usage and abuse. Most if not all employers conduct workplace drug tests as well as random drug screening on their employees.

As a condition of participating in the Career Technical Education Workplace Simulation program (CTEWPS) all secondary students must agree to be drug tested at acceptance into the program as well as randomly (details of these are defined later in the policy section of this document).

This program does not affect other policies and practices of the county school system, where the career technical center or comprehensive high school is located, that deal with drug, alcohol use or possession where reasonable suspicion is obtained by means other than the mandatory and random sampling discussed here.

All students who will participate in the CTEWPS activities during the school year and must complete and return consent forms within the deadlines set by the career technical center or comprehensive high school program director. Admission to the CTEWPS will depend on these forms being returned and the student passing the test. If a student is 18 years of age and living with a parent/guardian, he/she still must have both student and parent/guardian signatures. If the student is 18 years of age and has established a residence on his/her own, the signature of the student is all that is required.

Procedures and Guidelines

Each school year, each participating student and a parent/guardian will be invited to attend a CTEWPS drug awareness session. At the session, each student and parent/guardian will be provided information regarding CTEWPS procedures and drug testing policy. During the session,

students, and parents/guardians will have the opportunity to ask questions regarding the CTEWPS program. If a student is new to the county, he/she will have one week from the enrollment date to complete the drug testing consent form.

At the conclusion of the session, the CTEWPS consent form will be available for signatures by the student and parent/guardian. The procedure/consent form contains information regarding the CTEWPS program including drug testing. It provides that the student and parent/guardian must sign the consent form to be eligible to participate in the CTEWPS program. If the student is 18 years of age and has established a residence on his/her own, the student's signature is all that is required.

Each student who has signed a consent form will be assigned to the random drug pool for the duration of participation in the drug testing program. This consent form must be returned prior to the deadline set for the school year, or the student will not be eligible to participate the CTEWPS. For random drug testing, each student will be assigned a number that will be maintained in the office of the Director of Career Technical and Adult Programs. This number will be the student's identification number for testing and will not change. Only the Director of Career Technical and Adult Programs and testing staff designated to assist in administering the drug testing program will have access to the student numbers. Secondary students will be selected randomly. Such random drug testing may occur at any time during the school day. The drug testing company will randomly select the numbers, and the Director or his designee will match the selected numbers to the master list of participants. Students who drop out of the CTEWPS program will no longer be a part of the random drug testing pool.

Privacy and Confidentiality

The testing method to be administered will be urinalysis. Appropriate steps will be taken to respect the privacy of students while, simultaneously, preventing falsification of testing. Initial drug testing will be completed after the student:

- Has been admitted to the CTEWPS program
- Students and Parent/Guardian have signed the consent form.

Upon receiving a notice from the administration that the student has been selected for a random drug test, the student will go to an assigned area and wait until it is his/her turn to produce a specimen. A representative appointed by the CTE director will be available during the testing procedure. The student will present their identification to the test administrator, who will record the information on the testing form. The test administrator will then ask the student to remove outer garments (if any) and place the contents of the pockets on the testing table. The student will be allowed to return any non-containers to his/her person. The student will then be given a collection cup and instructed to open the cup. The test administrator will accompany the student to the restroom, where the student will be instructed to place the collection cup on a ledge or counter and then wash their hands. The test administrator will have placed dye into the toilet in the restroom. The student will then be instructed to void into the collection cup. The test administrator will test the urine.

When the test administrator completes the screening process, the student will be permitted to leave the test area, unless the initial screen is positive for drugs included in the screening. If the screening test indicates positive screen, the verification process will be implemented. If a student is unable to produce a urine sample, the student will undergo a time limit of 3 hours in order to produce a sample.

The test results will remain confidential and will only be released to the student, parents/guardians and Director of Career Technical and Adult Programs.

The test results will not be used for student discipline and will not become a part of the student's permanent record/transcript or communicated to another party. All files regarding the participants in the program, as well as test results, shall be kept strictly confidential and will be kept separate from the mandatory school files required for each student. If a student tests positive, the results will only be used to determine eligibility for participation in CTEWPS. The results will not be used to suspend or expel a student from school, will not be included in the student's disciplinary record, and will not be communicated to another party unless the school is subpoenaed.

Verification of Sample

If there is a positive drug screen result, the specimen will be sealed and mailed to the quality assurance division of the drug screening entity. The specimen will be verified as positive, the physician who is responsible for quality assurance will contact the parent/guardian to verify that there is not a prescription drug that may have caused a false positive drug screen. Verification of the sample will vary with the drug testing company that is hired to do the random testing with the school district.

Consequences

A student who has initially consented to be drug tested, may refuse to be tested, but if he/she chooses to do so, he/she will immediately be removed from participating in the CTEWPS program.

A student who has a positive test screening the first time will be provided information on drug treatment programs and will be required to be tested each time there is a random drug screening for the remainder of the program. Students enrolled in the Therapeutic Service concentration will be tested prior to starting their clinical rotation. Any Therapeutic Service student that has a positive test screen during clinical/shadowing rotation shall be immediately removed from the program.

A student who has a positive test screening the second time will be immediately removed from participating in the CTEWPS program.

Drug Counseling and Assistance

If students have a positive drug screen, information will be provided on treatment programs and other resources available in the community for potential treatment.

Drugs that Career Technical Work Place Simulation will test for:

Marijuana (THC), Cocaine, Amphetamines (Meth), and Opiates. Alcohol can be tested on reasonable suspicion basis. The school district will pay for all random drug screenings.