

Poultney Town School District

DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE POLICY

Code # F-107 (PSD)

POLICY:

It is the legal and social obligation of the Poultney School District to encourage and promote a totally drug and alcohol free school environment. To accomplish this it will be necessary to provide, as part of the regular curriculum, educational programs that will teach each student what inherent dangers are associated with substance abuse.

Each school will implement a curriculum consistent with the Vermont Alcohol and Drug Education Curriculum Plan. The staff in each school shall be provided a sufficient level of professional development to enable them to completely teach or provide other services required in the schools' alcohol and drug prevention education programs.

Whereas the principle responsibility for substance abuse begins in the home, substance abuse continues on into the community; it interferes in the behavior, learning and development of each individual. The school shares in the responsibility and strives to help in areas of prevention by education and intervening, when necessary, or by referral to trained personnel.

Substance abuse is a treatable disease and every opportunity should be extended to individuals requiring treatment. If substance abuse is diagnosed in either student, administration, or support staff, there will be equal opportunity for referrals.

1. It is the policy of the Poultney Board of Education to prevent and to prohibit the possession, use and/or distribution of any drug, alcohol, or drug paraphernalia on school property, at school-sponsored events, on school buses, and en route to and from school by any mode of travel and off school grounds.
2. All violations of this policy, which include the possession, the use, and the distribution of any drug or drug paraphernalia and being under the influence of any drug or alcohol, will be dealt with according to the procedures described herein. The consequences of such violations may ultimately result in expulsion from school and/or an arrest.
3. Recognizing that substance abuse may indicate other serious or underlying problems, every effort will be made to offer a student help and assistance. Help will include early identification, referral for treatment, and aftercare support. Disciplinary procedures will be administered with the best interests of the student, the school population, and the community in mind. The seriousness of an offense may require more severe consequences than are outlined in the following practices.

4. The rights of the students will receive due consideration. The questioning of a student on school premises will take place in the presence of a school official. A student's right to remain silent or speak through an attorney or parent/guardian may not be abridged. A school official will maintain a written record of all the proceedings under the policy. This will be made available to the student.
5. School personnel will apply the following terms and procedures, or combinations thereof, to enforce these policies.
6. During an investigation, students may not leave the school or use a telephone without special permission from the Principal or Dean of Students.
7. The building principal shall at all times have the sole discretion to modify the procedures set forth in this section if warranted by special circumstances.

	Date Adopted	Replaces Policy
Rutland Southwest Supervisory Union	See F-7 SU-wide policy	
Ira Town School District	See F-7 SU-wide policy	
Middletown Springs Town School District	See F-7 SU-wide policy	
Poultney Town School District	9/16/08	Drug and Alcohol Abuse Policy 8/15/02.
Tinmouth Town School District	See F-7 SU-wide policy	
Wells Town School District	See F-7 SU-wide policy	