

SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND TOBACCO EDUCATION PROGRAM

The goal of this policy is to provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary to assist them in avoiding the use of tobacco and/or nicotine, the abuse of alcohol and other legal or illegal substances. This policy is intended to promulgate a positive, pro-active approach to the control of alcohol, tobacco and/or nicotine and other drugs.

A plan for implementing required kindergarten through 12th grade preventive education, as outlined in **The Health Content Standards and Objectives** in West Virginia State Board of Education policy 2520.5, shall be coordinated with Safe and Drug-Free School (Goals and Objectives) to provide a comprehensive kindergarten through 12th grade substance abuse prevention curriculum for all children. School administrators, Local School Improvement Councils and school curriculum teams shall assure that prevention education efforts are comprehensive, coordinated and age appropriate. Examples include: developmental guidance, advisor-advisee, peer involvement, after school programs and integration into instructional objectives.

School Partnership Development

Each school will establish community agency and organization partnerships that serve to provide the school with a variety of supports and resources to develop appropriate behaviors in safe and supportive schools. These partnerships may be both formal and informal as described in State Board policy 4373. Formal partnerships between community service agencies must be approved by the Board.

School Policy Dissemination and Training

To ensure understanding of substance abuse and tobacco/nicotine expected behaviors, each school shall develop and implement an ongoing awareness campaign for all students, staff, and parents/guardians.

Policy [5500](#) and Policy [5600](#) shall appear in the student and staff handbooks and if no handbook is available, a copy will be distributed to all students, parents, faculty, and staff. Policy [5500](#) and Policy [5600](#) or a summary shall be conspicuously posted throughout the Board's facilities in areas accessible to students and staff members.

The County and/or school shall develop and implement training for students and staff on these regulations and on means for effectively promoting the goals of this policy.

School Implementation Plan

Plans for the implementation of substance abuse and tobacco/nicotine programs and policies should be included within individual school strategic

plans. The implementation plan shall reflect the particular needs of students and staff to study, learn, and work in a positive school climate/culture. To the maximum extent possible, the plan should be developed collaboratively with input from all stakeholders including, but not limited to parents, business leaders, community organizations, and State and local agencies. The plan should articulate and incorporate the partnership supports and resources that are available to the school through the County's formal and informal partnership agreements as well as through additional school level partnerships.

At a minimum, schools shall:

- A. establish leadership team (may be an existing team) to manage the design, monitoring, and improvement of school climate/culture;
- B. establish a process to gain school-wide input and commitment to school climate/culture improvement from students, staff, parents, and community;
- C. develop school-wide priorities for State Board policy 4373;
- D. analyze school climate/culture data annually;
- E. make data driven improvement decisions based on analysis of consistently tracked student behaviors;
- F. implement school-wide plans that provide appropriate interventions to support and reinforce expected behaviors;
- G. implement programs/practices that promote youth asset development to support expected student behaviors, positive education, and health outcomes;
- H. implement comprehensive and effective intervention programs/practices that target identified behaviors that are disruptive to the educational process and that place students at higher risk of poor education and health outcomes;
- I. develop appropriate and reliable referral procedures for intensive intervention that enlist school and community partnerships; and
- J. evaluate school climate/culture improvement processes and revise as needed.

School Evaluation of Effectiveness

The school will review data annually to determine the effectiveness of their implementation plan. This data review may include but not be limited to the following outcome and process data sets:

- A. progress toward implementation plan goals and objectives;
- B. evidence of school climate/culture improvement efforts;
- C. required LSIC reports (WV Code 18-5A-2);
- D. trend analysis from school climate/culture survey tools (as available);

- E. summary data for incidents of inappropriate behavior and intervention responses to incidents; and
- F. evaluation data from training and staff development provided by the County, RESA, and/or WVDE.

This policy shall be submitted to the State Superintendent of Schools by July 1, 2012. Thereafter, any revision must be submitted to the State Superintendent of Schools.

The Board of Education shall provide access to training and technical assistance in research-based and effective models for prevention education in the areas of alcohol, tobacco and substance abuse. Training, technical assistance and support also be provided in the effective use of student assistance teams to identify students who are at-risk and to develop interventions to assure school success for these students.

West Virginia Board of Education policies 2315, 2520.5 and 4373

Revised 8/7/12

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