

SENECA VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: SUBSTANCE USE/ABUSE

ADOPTED:

REVISED: February 13, 2006

227. SUBSTANCE USE/ABUSE	
1. Purpose	The Seneca Valley School Board recognizes and affirms the individual value and potential of each member of its school community. We recognize that substance use/abuse and dependency seriously impairs the ability of individuals to develop their full academic and social potential and adversely impacts the educational environment. The Board shall endeavor to use curriculum, classroom activities, administrative and faculty efforts and disciplinary procedures to prevent and intervene in the misuse and abuse of drug/alcohol substances. It is the goal of the district to protect the health, safety and welfare of students and staff of the Seneca Valley School District.
2. Authority SC 510, 511 Title 22 Sec. 12.3	The Seneca Valley School District prohibits the possession, use, misuse, being under the influence, or the distribution by students and unauthorized personnel of drugs (controlled, noncontrolled or mood-altering substances), look-alikes, designer drugs, drug paraphernalia, health endangering substances, medication not registered with the health office, or alcohol on school district property, at any school-sponsored event, in any conveyance providing transportation to or from school or school-sponsored events, while traveling to or from school or school sponsored events or during activities under school district jurisdiction.
3. Definitions 35 P.S. 780-101 et seq 42 P.S. 8337 21 U.S.C. Sec. 812	<p>Drug/Mood-Altering Substance – As used in this policy shall be defined as any controlled substance, noncontrolled substance, or designer drug, look-alike substance or health endangering substance.</p> <p>Controlled Substance – A controlled substance is any drug or substance listed in Schedules 1 – 5 of the Pennsylvania Drug Device and Cosmetic Act of 1972. Examples include, but are not limited to, alcohol, marijuana, stimulants, depressants, hallucinogens, etc.</p>

<p>Pol. 210</p>	<p>Noncontrolled Substance – A noncontrolled substance is any substance containing phenylpropanolamine, pseudoephedrine, ephedrine, or any other noncontrolled substance that has or is represented to have a stimulant or depressant effect on humans. In addition to the items stated above, any product that includes chemical solvents or aerosol carcinogens is also considered a noncontrolled substance.</p> <p>Designer Drug – A controlled substance analog is a noncontrolled substance which either produces the pharmacological effect or is represented to produce pharmacological effects similar to a controlled substance in Schedule 1 or 2 of the Pennsylvania Drug Device and Cosmetic Act of 1972.</p> <p>Look-Alike Substance – A noncontrolled substance whose physical appearance of the finished dosage form containing the noncontrolled substance is substantially identical to any controlled substance, taking into account size, shape, color, markings or lack thereof.</p> <p>Health Endangering Substance – Any substance that may be harmful to the individual.</p> <p>Medication – Prescription and nonprescription medicines, as defined by the Seneca Valley School District’s Medication Policy.</p> <p>Drug Paraphernalia – All equipment, products and material of any kind which are used, intended for use or designed for use in planting, propagating, cultivating, growing, harvesting, manufacturing, compounding, producing, processing, preparing, testing, analyzing, packaging, repackaging, storing, containing, concealing, injection, injecting, ingesting, inhaling, or otherwise introducing to the human body a controlled substance.</p> <p>Distribution – Delivering, selling, passing, sharing, offering, giving, transferring, soliciting or procuring any drug or mood-altering substance including controlled substances, noncontrolled substances, designer drugs or look-alike substances, as defined by this policy, from one person to another, to aid therein or to agree upon, conspire to engage in or attempt such action.</p> <p>Possession – Possess or hold, with or without any attempt to distribute, any drug or mood-altering substance including controlled substances, noncontrolled substances, designer drugs or look-alike substances, or paraphernalia determined to be illegal or as defined herein.</p>
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<p>4. Delegation of Responsibility 42 P.S. 8337 Pol. 218, 233</p> <p>SC 1303-A</p>	<p>Complete Drug and Alcohol Screening – The NIDA (National Institute on Drug Abuse) Urine Drug Screen, which includes a 10-drug panel and confirmation by a NIDA Certified Lab. The collection must include NIDA protocol and a secured chain-of-custody. A breath alcohol testing may be required if determined appropriate. All screening and testing required by this policy will be completed at the expense of the school district.</p> <p>The Superintendent shall prepare guidelines for the identification, amelioration and control of substance use/abuse in the schools which shall establish procedures for the investigation of suspected violations of this policy, provide a consistent means for effectively responding to and reporting violations of this policy and provide guidance for the instruction and readmission to school of students determined to have violated this policy.</p> <p>Incidents of possession, use and sale of controlled substances, including alcohol, by any person on school property shall be reported to the Office of Safe Schools on the required form at least once each year.</p> <p>Maintaining the confidentiality of information involving or arising from investigations of suspected substance use/abuse is the responsibility of all parties involved. Such information shall be limited to the parties who have immediate knowledge of the situation and may only be extended to medical personnel, the Superintendent, the building principal and assistant principal, and counselors or other school personnel having a legitimate educational interest, and law enforcement officials in compliance with law.</p> <p><u>Disciplinary Response</u></p> <p>The following disciplinary action is prescribed for any student found in violation of this policy:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Immediate Action – The student shall receive an out-of-school suspension for a period of three (3) days. During the first three (3) days, an informal hearing will be held with the student accompanied by a parent/guardian. Subject to such informal hearing, the student's out-of-school suspension may be extended to a period of ten (10) days and the incident shall be referred to the Superintendent for the initiation of a formal expulsion hearing. Before determination of final disciplinary action, the student will be required to receive immediate, complete drug and alcohol screening by the district's vendor. The student will also be directed to receive an assessment by a licensed drug and alcohol facility and show verification of attendance and compliance with any recommendations from the facility.
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	<p>The maximum out-of-school suspension period that a building principal can assess to a student is ten (10) school days. Any disciplinary action resulting in exclusion from school for more than ten (10) school days constitutes an expulsion and can only be the result of a formal hearing of the School Board. If the student is to appear at a formal hearing, the district pledges to make such hearing available within the ten (10) school day period. The student and family are expected to be prepared for this hearing within the ten (10) school days. Delays for attorney schedules and the like will not result in the student being reinstated to the classroom nor in-school suspension. If a delay is granted, it will only be granted with the understanding that in the interim, the student will be prohibited from attending school on parent/guardian violation.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">2. Expulsion – subject to a formal hearing before the Board of School Directors, the student shall be expelled for a minimum of thirty (30) days (inclusive of any initial administratively imposed suspension) and for such further period as may be determined by the Board of School Directors.3. The Superintendent or his/her designee is granted the discretionary authority, on a case-by-case basis, to supersede the minimum period of suspension in consideration of the nature of the offense, the age of the student and any other mitigating circumstances.4. The disciplinary provisions set forth in this policy are subject to and may be limited by the provisions of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEIA), its accompanying regulations or other applicable law. To the extent permitted by IDEIA, its accompanying regulations or other applicable law, the disciplinary provisions applicable to students without disabilities shall be applied in a similar manner to those students with disabilities.
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