



TO: School Board Members

FROM: Tye Michaels, Director of Human Resources
Sara Lein, Director of Special Services

DATE: June 1, 2026

SUBJECT: Administrative Review of Policy 417, Chemical Use and Abuse

BACKGROUND

A review of Policy 417, Chemical Use and Abuse, has been completed. This policy was last reviewed in June of 2023. The language continues to match that of the MSBA model policy, where the only changes have been a minor language change and an update to the policy name referenced in the Cross Reference list. There have been no changes to the policy from the administration in that time.

School District 197 reviews its policies on a 3-year cycle unless otherwise required by law. Typically, recommended policy changes are brought to the school board for three readings, with approval at the third reading. However, when the administration is recommending minor or no changes to the policy, it is labeled as an "administrative review." Consistent changes the board has asked to be applied to policies are considered minor. One example is using more inclusive language such as using "parent/guardian" instead of just "parent."

When labeled an "administrative review," the policy is placed on the consent agenda for a single reading with a recommendation to approve the policy as presented. As a reminder, board members always have the opportunity to remove a policy from the consent agenda to discuss it as part of the main agenda.

This policy was also reviewed using the district's Four-Way Equity Test. This policy advances equity by prioritizing prevention, culturally responsive education, and supportive interventions, informed by community feedback calling for accessible, non-punitive approaches for historically underserved students. It promotes equitable access and reduces barriers across protected groups while improving the overall quality and consistency of student support services.

RECOMMENDED RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No. 197 to approve Policy 417, Chemical Use and Abuse, as presented.