5150 CHEMICAL USE, ABUSE, AND DEPENDENCY

The School Board recognizes the existence of conditions such as chemical use, abuse, and dependency which impede the educational process. Therefore, the School District shall assist in the prevention, identification, and response to chemical use problems in the early stages.

1. Prevention

a. Instruction at all levels is intended to enable students to make responsible decisions regarding chemical use.

b. In addition to the student program, staff members will participate in on-going in service programs related to the broad range of chemical health issues.

2. Identification

a . The School District shall assist in the identification of abuse cases and facilitate professional evaluation, support, and rehabilitation services.

b. Teachers and other staff members have a responsibility to observe behavior changes in students and document and report these observations.

c. In secondary schools, the chemical dependency program shall be coordinated by the building student assistance team and at the elementary schools by the principal. d. When the behavior of a student jeopardizes his/her health, safety, welfare, or that of other students or staff, there will be an immediate intervention. Immediate intervention is mandated when a student is observed possessing, consuming, or distributing chemical substances on school grounds or at school events. Appropriate action shall be taken by school personnel to deal with alleged violators.

3. Response

a. Students who become chemically dependent are subject to the same educational standards and expectations as students with other health problems.

b . The school will assist in a system of support upon the return of a student from the treatment of his/her problem.

c. Programs shall be designed not only for a student who is chemically dependent but for the student whose academic performance is affected by a family member who is chemically dependent. Such students shall be advised as to the availability of community assistance programs.

d. All records pertaining to a student's chemical dependency problem shall be private data on individuals and retained apart from other school records. Access shall be limited to the student, individuals with the School District whose work assignment reasonably requires access, entities who are authorized by statute or federal law to have access and entities or individuals given access by the express written direction of the data subject pursuant to Minnesota Statute Section 13.01 to 13.87 and State Rules Part 1205.400, Subd. 2.

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