

Policy Title:

Substance Use and Abuse

Code No. **502.2**

A safe and drug-free school environment is recognized by the Cedar Falls Board of Education as essential to prevent serious problems and threats to the academic, social, physical, and emotional welfare of all students. The Cedar Falls Community School District is committed to the establishment of policies and procedures which:

1. increase student awareness of the hazards of substance use/abuse,
2. improve student attitudes and decision-making skills, and
3. provide assistance and referral services for students with substance use/abuse problems.

An atmosphere conducive to the educational excellence of all students is a major responsibility of the District. To successfully meet this obligation, procedures have been developed which are consistent with the laws of the state of Iowa.

The Board prohibits the distribution, dispensing, manufacture, possession, use, or being under the influence of beer, wine, alcohol, tobacco/nicotine, and unauthorized drugs or other controlled substances, or "look alike" substances that appear to be any of the foregoing by students while on school district property or on property within the jurisdiction of the school district; while on school-owned and/or operated school or chartered vehicles; while attending or engaged in school activities; and while away from school grounds if the misconduct will directly affect the good order, efficient management and welfare of the school district. The distribution, dispensing, possession, and use of e-cigarettes, vapor products, and/or any other alternative tobacco/nicotine product are also prohibited, unless with physician authorization.

The board believes such illegal, unauthorized or contraband materials generally cause material and substantial disruption to the school environment or present a threat to the health and safety of students, employees, or visitors.

Violation of this policy by students will result in disciplinary action including suspension, exclusion, or expulsion, as stipulated in the board policy governing student discipline. Students participating in extra-curricular activities violating this policy will also be subject to disciplinary action as stipulated in the board policy pertaining to the extra-curricular code of conduct. The use, purchase/sale/distribution or being in possession of cigarettes, tobacco/nicotine or tobacco/nicotine products for those under the age of eighteen, may be reported to the local law enforcement authorities. Possession, use, purchase/sale/distribution, or being under the influence of beer, wine, alcohol and/or of an unauthorized controlled substance may also be reported to the local law enforcement authorities.

Students who violate the terms of this policy may be required to satisfactorily complete a substance abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved by the school board. If such student fails to satisfactorily complete such a program, the student may be subject to discipline including suspension, exclusion, or expulsion.

The board believes the substance abuse prevention program will include:

- Age-appropriate, developmentally-based drug and alcohol curriculum for students in grades kindergarten through twelve, which address the legal, social, and health consequences of tobacco, drug and alcohol use and which provide information about effective techniques for resisting peer pressure to use tobacco, drugs or alcohol;
- A statement to students that the use of illicit drugs and the unlawful possession and use of alcohol is wrong and harmful;
- Standards of conduct for students that clearly prohibit, at a minimum, the unlawful possession, use, being under the influence of or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students on school premises or as part of any of its activities;
- A clear statement that disciplinary sanctions, up to and including suspension or expulsion and referral for prosecution, will be imposed on students who violate the policy and a description of those sanctions;
- A statement that students may be required to successfully complete an appropriate rehabilitation program;
- Information about drug and alcohol counseling and rehabilitation and re-entry programs available to students;
- A requirement that parents and students be given a copy of the standards of conduct and the statement of disciplinary sanctions required; and
- Notification to parents and students that compliance with the standards of conduct is mandatory.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent or designee, in conjunction with building principals, to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy.

Date of Adoption: April 7, 2014

Date of Revision: December 8, 2014
June 12, 2017
August 14, 2023