

CODE: JICH

DRUG AND ALCOHOL USE BY STUDENTS

The School Committee and staff of the Kittery School District support a safe and healthy learning environment for students that is free of the detrimental effects of drugs and alcohol. Accomplishing this goal requires a cooperative effort among school staff, students, parents/guardians, law enforcement and organizations concerned with the use of drugs and alcohol by school-aged youth.

In order to promote the safety, health and well being of students, the School Committee endorses a multi-pronged approach to address the issue of drug and alcohol use; prevention/education; intervention and discipline. The Superintendent or designee is responsible for developing appropriate administrative procedures, curricula and programs to implement this policy.

A. Prohibited Conduct

No student shall distribute, dispense, possess, use or be under the influence of any alcoholic beverage, malt beverage, fortified wine or other intoxicating liquor. Nor shall a student manufacture, distribute, dispense, possess, use or be under the influence of any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana, anabolic steroid, prescription drug not prescribed for the student, any other controlled substance defined in federal and state laws/regulations, drug paraphernalia, any look-alike substance, or any substance that is represented to be a controlled substance.

These prohibitions apply to any student who is on school property, who is in attendance at school or at any school-sponsored activity, or whose conduct at any time or place directly interferes with the operations, discipline or general welfare of the school. Marijuana has been legalized for adult use in Maine but still remains illegal for use by minors under 21, and for adults over 21 to use in areas deemed “nonpublic” under Maine State Law.

B. Prevention Education

The Kittery School District will educate students about the detrimental effects of drugs/alcohol as part of the comprehensive health curriculum. Programs will teach students to resist peer pressure and the legal, social and health consequences of use.

C. Intervention

The Kittery School District will establish a team approach to intervention for students who have drug/alcohol problems. Students will be assisted in addressing their drug/alcohol problems and in continuing their educational program. Students will be provided with information and referral, if necessary, to aid them in obtaining assistance from appropriate community organizations. Student records concerning such interventions shall be kept confidential as required by state and federal laws.

D. Disciplinary Action

Principals will suspend and/or recommend expulsion of students who violate this policy, based upon the facts of each case and in accordance with established disciplinary procedures. Students will also be referred to law enforcement authorities for investigation and/or prosecution.

E. Policy Communication

The school unit shall distribute this policy and appropriate related information to staff, students and parents/guardians on an annual basis through handbooks and/or other means selected by the Superintendent and building administrators.

Legal Reference:	21 USC § 812 (Controlled Substances Act) 21 CFR Part 1300.11-15 P.L. 101-226 (Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989) 17-A MRSA § 1101 42 USC § 290dd-2 42 CFR § 2.1 et seq. 20-A MRSA §§ 1001(9); 4008
Cross Reference:	GBEC – Drug-Free Workplace JICIA – Weapons, Violence and School Safety JKD – Suspension of Students JKE – Expulsion of Students JLCD – Administering Medication to Students JRA – Student Records
Adopted:	March 2, 1993
Revised:	July 5, 1994; September 15, 1998; November 19, 2002; February 22, 2012; June 18, 2019