

**Franklin Public Schools
Franklin, Massachusetts 02038**

Action Required

Subject: Policy

Date: October 25, 2022

Dept: SC

Reason: Required Vote

Enclosure: yes

Recommendation:

Policy 2nd Reading/Adoption

I recommend adoption of policy JICH - Alcohol, Tobacco and Drug Use by Students as detailed.

Action Requested of the School Committee:

Majority vote of the School Committee is required.

<u>Vote Tabulator</u>	
C. Bernstein:	Y / N D. McNeill: Y / N
D. Callaghan:	Y / N M. Whitmore: Y / N
Al Charles:	Y / N D Spencer: Y / N
E Stokes:	Y / N Action: _____

ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, AND DRUG USE BY STUDENTS PROHIBITED

The Franklin School Committee recognizes that substance use and abuse, including alcoholism and chemical dependency, is a pervasive health issue with physical, emotional, social and legal implications that deter individuals from realizing their potential.

The School Committee also recognizes the unique impacts of substances, including alcohol, marijuana and other controlled substances on the developing. To understand the risks associated with psychoactive substances in adolescents, it helps to understand that teenagers are not just less-experienced adults; they are undergoing an important yet challenging developmental stage in which they are prone to errors of judgment, and sensitive to neurological assault by psychoactive substances. Alcohol and chemical dependency is a disease that affects not only the individual but family, friends, associates, and the community at large. Solutions to this problem must involve a collaborative effort among schools, parents, the community, community organizations and law enforcement agencies.

The School Committee prohibits students from possessing, using, consuming, distributing, selling, arranging for the distribution or sale, or being under the influence of alcohol, tobacco products, including, but not limited to: cigarettes, cigars, little cigars, chewing tobacco, pipe tobacco, snuff, electronic cigarettes, electronic cigars, electronic pipes or other similar products that rely on vaporization or aerosolization, drugs or drug paraphernalia within the school buildings, school facilities, on school grounds or school buses, or at school sponsored events by any individual.

As part of its commitment to substance abuse education and prevention, the Franklin Public Schools will provide educational programs so students are made aware of the physical, emotional, social and legal impacts of substance use and abuse including alcohol, marijuana, opioids and other controlled substances and the schools will provide programming designed to increase students protective factors against substance abuse including comprehensive Health Education and Social Emotional Learning programs as well as a variety of extracurricular activities to engage students in positive experiences. Additionally, the schools will provide educational materials to students and families which include resources and programs to support prevention, treatment and recovery from substance abuse. The Franklin Public Schools will engage in partnerships with community organizations and state and local agencies to support students and families around substance use and abuse prevention and treatment.

Franklin Public Schools provides a safe haven for students who seek treatment for substance abuse. As such, no student who seeks out treatment for substance abuse shall face disciplinary action. However, seeking treatment after a violation of the school and district code of conduct shall not exempt a student from disciplinary action.

Any student who is under the influence of drugs or alcoholic beverages prior to, or during, attendance at or participation in a school-sponsored activity, or consumes or is in possession of a controlled substance, will be barred from that activity, may be subject to disciplinary action and may be referred to law enforcement agencies. Principals, at their discretion, may consider participation in and completion of treatment programs in lieu of or in order to reduce penalties for having violated the district substance abuse policy.

Recognizing that overdose from opioids plays an increasing role in the death of Massachusetts residents, the Franklin Public Schools shall maintain a plan for addressing medical emergencies in its schools resulting from overdose.

This policy shall be posted on the district's website and notice shall be provided to all students and parents of this policy in accordance with state law. Additionally, the district shall file a copy of this policy with DESE in accordance with law in a manner requested by DESE.

LEGAL REF.: M.G.L. [71:2A](#); 71:96; [272:40A](#), [71:37H](#)
CROSS REF.: [IHAMA](#), Teaching About Alcohol, Tobacco and Drugs
[GBEC](#), Drug Free Workplace Policy
JLCCB, Wellness Policy
JAB, Handbooks are Policy
MIAA Handbook: RULE 62: Student (and Coach)
Eligibility: Chemical Health/Alcohol/Drugs/Tobacco

Adopted by School Committee: 7/18/17
To School Committee for 2nd Reading/Adoption: 10/25/2022