

TITLE 126  
LEGISLATIVE RULE  
WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF EDUCATION  
CHAPTER 18-2  
SERIES 2422.5

Title: Substance Abuse Policy

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Section 1. General

1.1 Scope - This legislative rule requires establishment of county policies related to use of controlled substances.

1.2 Authority - West Virginia Code 18-2-9

1.3 Filing Date - December 27, 1982

1.4 Effective Date - February 27, 1983

Section 2. Applicability

Effective January 1, 1982 each of the fifty-five counties will adopt a controlled substance abuse policy that relates to the well being of the individual students, staff members, and the school population in general. The policy should provide a consistent means for handling drug related difficulties while recognizing the needs and rights of all parties involved, within the confines of the law and sensible judgment.

The potential for substance abuse occurs within many school populations. This problem makes it necessary for counties to develop a policy that is preventive and protective of the health, safety, and welfare of students, faculty, school property, and the educational process.

Section 3. Components

The following components shall be addressed in each county's policy:

1. general definitions of controlled substances, etc., drugs, alcohol, prescription medications, non-prescription medicine;
2. prevention measures such as instructional programs for K-12 health growth and development (see State Code of West Virginia 18-2-9);
3. corrective measures such as:
  - a. appropriate and immediate action to be taken, such as notify the principal, the counselor, or the nurse or seek emergency medical care;
  - b. staff members to be involved in working with substance abuse, such as teacher, principal, counselor, and nurse;

- c. notification of parents, as required when a student is to be suspended;
  - d. notification of law enforcement officials when appropriate;
  - e. appropriate disciplinary action as determined by county discipline procedures and those in the Rights and Responsibilities of Public School Students in West Virginia;
  - f. nature of help to be offered or provided, such as drug counseling, modification of the education program or referral to an outside agency;
4. procedures for the development of the policy:

Each county should seek the assistance of school personnel and community leaders in developing the substance abuse policy. Technical assistance will be provided by the West Virginia Department of Education to any county making a written request.

Policies are to be submitted to the State Superintendent of Schools for approval on or before January 1, 1982.

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