

ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS

Instruction

Students shall receive instruction by appropriately trained instructors about the nature and effects of alcohol and other drugs, including dangerous drugs defined by Health and Safety Code 11032. [Education Code (E.C.) 51260]

Site administrators shall determine that drug education instructors possess: [E.C. 51260]

1. The ability to interact with students in a positive way
2. Knowledge of the properties and effects of tobacco, alcohol, narcotics, dangerous drugs, and shared drug apparatus
3. Effective teaching skills and competency in helping students to express opinions responsibly and to become aware of their values as they affect drug-use decisions

At all grade levels, instruction shall include a study of the effects of alcohol and other drugs upon the human system, as determined by science. Instruction shall be sequential in nature and suited to meet the needs of students at their respective grade level. [E.C. 51203, 51260]

In grades 7 through 12, instruction in drug education shall be conducted in health courses and in any other appropriate area of study required by Education Code 51220. [E.C. 51260]

Secondary school instruction shall include a study of the effects of alcohol and other drugs upon prenatal development. [E.C. 51203]

(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)

The drug education program shall augment other county drug education services, if any. School-site staff shall take every opportunity to cooperate with Monterey County Office of Education (MCOE) staff in planning and implementing collaborative alcohol and drug prevention programs. [E.C. 51260, 51268]

Intervention

The staff shall intervene whenever students use alcohol or other illegal drugs while on school property or under school jurisdiction. Staff members who believe that a student

may be under the influence of alcohol or drugs shall immediately notify the principal or designee.

If the principal or designee knows, observes or suspects that a student may be under the influence of alcohol or drugs, he/she may notify the parent/guardian. [E.C. 44049]

However, school staff shall not disclose confidential information provided during counseling by a student 12 years of age or older. School counselors may report such information to the principal or parent/guardian only when they believe that disclosure is necessary to avert a clear and present danger to the health, safety or welfare of the student or other persons living in the school community. They shall not disclose such information to the parent/guardian if they believe that the disclosure would result in a clear and present danger to the student's health, safety or welfare. [E.C. 44049, 49602]

(cf. 5145.1 - Privacy)

In cases of medical emergency, the principal is authorized to call an ambulance to remove the student to a hospital. Parents/guardians will be notified of this action and shall be responsible for the incurred expenses.

(cf. 5141 - Health Care and Emergencies)

Confiscation of Electronic Signaling Devices

Because electronic signaling devices (beepers, cellular telephones, etc.) are sometimes used to facilitate illegal drug transactions, the possession or use of such devices by students is prohibited on school premises, at all school-sponsored activities, and at any time while students are under the supervision and control of County Office employees. An exception shall be made only when the principal or designee has determined that the device is essential for the student's health and then shall be used only for health purposes. [E.C. 48901.5]

The Monterey County Superintendent of Schools (County Superintendent) or designee shall confiscate these devices from students.

(cf. 5144 - Discipline)

Enforcement/Discipline

Staff shall notify the principal or designee immediately upon suspecting a student is selling, providing or using alcohol or other drugs.

When any student uses, possesses or sells alcohol or illegal drugs at school or while under school jurisdiction, the following shall result:

1. Parent/guardian contact
2. Suspension or expulsion in accordance with law or MCOE policy

(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

3. Contact with law enforcement authority within one school day of the suspension [E.C. 48902]

In addition, the following actions may be taken:

1. Referral to an appropriate counseling program
2. Transfer/alternative placement

Reports

Upon request, the County Superintendent or designee shall submit alcohol and drug prevention program information to the California Department of Education, including information on the prevalence of drug use and violence by youth in the schools and community. Such information shall also be made readily available to the public. [20 USC 7117]