PANTHER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

ADOPTED: May 27, 2010

REVISED:

227. DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

1. Purpose

The Board expresses its belief in the accompanying policy that alcohol and other drugs cannot be used responsibly by any minor. Furthermore, this philosophy must be of utmost importance in the development of guidelines and procedures required to implement this policy.

The Board recognizes that chemical dependency, including drug and alcohol abuse, has become one of our major health problems. The Board is also aware that drug and alcohol abuse taking place in district schools and the community is a threat to the health and welfare of the general population, especially to children and youth. The district recognizes that chemical dependency is a treatable health problem.

Health problems of youth are primarily the responsibility of the home and community; however, schools share in that responsibility because chemical dependency problems interfere with appropriate school behavior, student learning, and the fullest possible development of each student. The district holds the position that students must be chemically free in order to develop in the most productive and healthy manner.

Furthermore, the district will work through curriculum and classroom activity, administrative and faculty effort, and disciplinary procedures to prevent and intervene in the abuse of drugs and alcohol by members of the school population.

Definitions
35 P.S.
Sec. 780-102
U.S.C.
Sec. 812
Pol. 210

For purposes of this policy, **drugs and alcohol** shall include any alcohol or malt beverage, any controlled substance prohibited by federal and state law, abused substance, anabolic steroids, drug paraphernalia, potentially health endangering substance, medication for which a prescription is required, and/or any substance which is intended to alter mood.

Examples shall include, but are not limited to, herbal products and any products that contain any form of ephedrine, beer, wine, liquor, marijuana, hashish, chemical solvents, inhalants, hallucinogens, glue, counterfeit substances or chemicals, lookalike substances, potentially health endangering substances, and any medication not

registered with the nurse, annotated within the student's health record and/or taken in accordance with Board policy for the administration of medication to students in school.

Counterfeit means a controlled substance, other drug, device or cosmetic which, or the container or labeling of which, without authorization, bears the trademark, trade name, or other identifying mark, imprint, number, or any likeness thereof, or a manufacturer, distributor, or dispenser other than the person or persons who in fact manufactured, distributed, or dispensed such substance, or the substance is falsely represented to be the product of, or to have been distributed by, such other manufacturer, distributor, or dispenser. Counterfeit shall also mean any substance which is termed a look-alike substitution for any controlled substance.

For purposes of this policy, **under the influence** shall include any consumption or ingestion of controlled substances by a student.

3. Authority SC 510, 511 Title 22 Sec. 12.3 The Board prohibits students from using, possessing, distributing, and being under the influence of any drugs and alcohol/controlled substances during school hours, at any time while on school property, at any school-sponsored activity, and during the time spent traveling to and from school and school-sponsored activities.

The Board identifies that school personnel shall be held responsible for reporting all incidences involving drugs and alcohol. Employees shall be subject to progressive discipline for failure to report any such incident.

The Board may require participation in drug counseling, rehabilitation, testing or other programs as a condition of reinstatement into the school's educational, extracurricular or athletic programs resulting from violations of this policy.

Off-Campus Activities

Pol. 218

This policy shall also apply to student conduct that occurs off school property and would violate the Code of Student Conduct if:

- 1. There is a nexus between the proximity or timing of the conduct in relation to the student's attendance at school or school-sponsored activities.
- Pol. 122, 123
- 2. The student is a member of an extracurricular activity and has been notified that particular off-campus conduct could result in exclusion from such activities.

- 3. Student expression or conduct materially and substantially disrupts the operations of the school, or the administration reasonably anticipates that the expression or conduct is likely to materially and substantially disrupt the operations of the school.
- 4. The conduct has a direct nexus to attendance at school or a school-sponsored activity, such as an agreement to complete a transaction outside of school that would violate the Code of Student Conduct.
- 5. The conduct involves the theft or vandalism of school property.

4. Delegation of Responsibility

42 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 8337 Pol. 218, 233 The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative regulations to identify and control substance abuse in the schools which:

- 1. Establish procedures to deal with students suspected of using, possessing, being under the influence, or distributing drugs and alcohol/controlled substances in school, up to and including expulsion and referral for prosecution.
- 2. Disseminate to students, parents/guardians and staff the Board policy and administrative regulations governing student abuse of drugs and alcohol/controlled substances.
- 3. Provide education concerning the dangers of abusing drugs and alcohol/controlled substances.
- 4. Establish procedures for education and readmission to school of students convicted of offenses involving drugs and alcohol/controlled substances.

All district personnel shall report to their immediate supervisor any student or employee involved in or suspected in the use of, transfer of, or having alcohol or other drugs, narcotics, or controlled substances in their possession while on or about the school property or while on a school function.

All district personnel shall report to their immediate supervisor any person who is not a student or employee and who is found to be using, soliciting, or giving a student or employee any alcohol or other drugs, narcotics, or controlled substances while on or about the school property or while on a school-related function.

The Supervisor shall report such information to the Superintendent immediately and confirm the same to the Superintendent as soon as possible in writing relating the specific sequence of events in each case.

| • | |
|---------------|---|
| | The supervisor or the Superintendent will immediately notify the appropriate law enforcement agency in any case involving persons not related to the district. |
| SC 1303-A | Incidents of possession, use and sale of controlled substances by any person on school property shall be reported to the Office of Safe Schools on the required form at least once each year. |
| 5. Guidelines | In all cases involving students and drugs and alcohol/controlled substances, the need to protect the school community from undue harm and exposure to drugs shall be recognized. |
| | No student may be admitted to a program that seeks to identify and rehabilitate the potential abuser without the intelligent, voluntary and aware consent of the student and parent/guardian. |
| | The Board requires that a student who, while under the school's jurisdiction, is found to possess, is observed to be under the influence of, use or abuse of alcohol or other drugs, narcotics, or controlled substances for the first time shall be subject to the following immediate actions. For subsequent offenses, please refer to the Summarization of Drug and Alcohol Administrative Guidelines as set forth in the student handbook. |
| | 1. Parents/Guardians shall be immediately contacted by the building administration and the student shall be sent home or removed from the school for medical attention if necessary. If the parents/guardians cannot be reached, the decision to get medical attention for the student or to isolate the student from other students shall be made by the school administration or designee. |
| | 2. The police department having jurisdiction over the area in which the school is located may be notified by the Superintendent or designee and the student may be referred for appropriate action. |
| | 3. The student will initially be suspended for up to ten (10) days during which time an informal hearing will be scheduled. In addition, students will be subject to eligibility guidelines. |
| | |
| | |

- 4. Within the first three (3) days of the suspension, preferably the day after the occurrence, an informal hearing will be held with the student, his/her parents/guardians, local police department representative, the school administration, and any other person who, in the judgment of the administration, could make contributions to aid in determining a course of action. As a result of the meeting, the district shall do one (1) or more of the following:
 - a. Refer the student to district personnel for counseling. Appropriate staff members may constitute one (1) or more of the following:
 - 1) Principal.
 - 2) School nurse.
 - 3) Student's guidance counselor.
 - 4) School psychologist.
 - 5) Other appropriately trained staff members selected by the principal.
 - b. Recommend the student, under parental supervision, obtain assessment from an outside licensed professional resource. Confirmation of such contact shall be required to be submitted within a prescribed time to the school administration. Such confirmation shall include a signed consent for release of information to the treating resource and a copy of a written report with recommendations. Failure to comply within a prescribed time will be cause for additional days of this suspension to be required. The quantity of these required suspensions will be at the discretion of the principal.
 - c. Full suspension for up to ten (10) school days.
 - d. Referral to the district hearing committee for an expulsion hearing.
 - e. Student is required to follow the Student Assistance Contract.
 - f. Any other action determined appropriate by the situation.

The Board recognizes that a student who voluntarily comes, or is referred, to the principal seeking help and not under the immediate influence of, or transferring, or in possession of alcohol or other drugs, narcotics, or controlled substances within the school is not subject to the provisions of this policy, but will be provided with all appropriate help as defined in this policy.

Anabolic Steroids

35 P.S. Sec. 807.1 The Board prohibits the use of anabolic steroids by students involved in school-related athletics, except for a valid medical purpose. Body building and muscle enhancement of athletic ability are not valid medical purposes. Human Growth Hormone (HGH) shall not be included as an anabolic steroid.

35 P.S. Sec. 807.2 Pol. 233 Students shall be made aware of the dangers of steroid use; that anabolic steroids are classified as controlled substances; and that their use, unauthorized possession, purchase, or sale could subject students to suspension, expulsion and/or criminal prosecution.

35 P.S. Sec. 807.3 The following minimum penalties are prescribed for any student athlete found in violation of the prohibited use of anabolic steroids:

- 1. For a **first** violation, suspension from school athletics for the remainder of the season.
- 2. For a **second** violation, suspension from school athletics for the remainder of the season and for the following season.
- 3. For a **third** violation, permanent suspension from school athletics.

No student shall be eligible to resume participation in school athletics unless a medical determination has been submitted, verifying that no residual evidence of steroids exists.

Reasonable Suspicion/Testing

If based on the student's behavior, medical symptoms, vital signs or other observable factors, the building principal has reasonable suspicion that the student is under the influence of a controlled substance, the student may be required to submit to drug or alcohol testing. The testing may include but is not limited to the analysis of blood, urine, saliva, or the administration of a Breathalyzer test.

