

TEACHING ABOUT DRUGS, ALCOHOL, AND TOBACCO

In accordance with state and federal law, the District shall provide age-appropriate, developmentally based drug and alcohol education and prevention programs in grades K-12.

The alcohol, tobacco/nicotine, and drug education program shall address the legal, social, and health consequences of alcohol, tobacco/nicotine, and drug use, with emphasis on nonuse by school-age children. . The program also shall include information about effective techniques and skill development for delaying and abstaining from using, as well as skills for addressing peer pressure to use alcohol, tobacco/nicotine, or drugs.

The objectives of this program, as stated below, are rooted in the Committee's belief that prevention requires education, and that the most important aspect of the policies and guidelines of the District should be the education of youth on healthy decision making:

- To prevent, delay, and/or reduce alcohol, tobacco/nicotine, and drug use among youth.
- To increase students' understanding of the legal, social, and health consequences of alcohol, tobacco/nicotine, and drug use.
- To teach students self-management skills, social skills, negotiation skills, and refusal skills that will help them to make healthy decisions and avoid alcohol, tobacco/nicotine, and drug use.

The curriculum, instructional materials, and outcomes used in this program shall be a district approved program

The policy shall be posted on the district's website and notice shall be provided to all students and parents 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.

Adopted by the Reading School Committee on March 26, 2007

Revised and Adopted by the Reading School Committee on July 27, 2016

LEGAL REFS.: M.G.L. 71:1; 71:96

CROSS REF: GBEC, Drug Free Workplace Policy

JICH, Drug and Alcohol Use by Students