

Adopted: 10/21/1980
Revised: 2/19/1991

Saint Paul Public Schools Procedure

417.00

417.00 CHEMICAL USE AND ABUSE

Identification And Referral Of Students Who May Have Chemical Use Problems

Any staff member who has reason to believe that a student's behavior and/or academic progress indicate possible chemical use or abuse shall express that concern to a member of the student assistance team. The student assistance team will appoint one of its members to review each case and discreetly seek additional information as necessary to determine whether chemical misuse may exist. In the case of a student who receives special education services, a student assistant team member will confer with the student's case manager or facilitator. The accumulated data will be reviewed by the student assistance team and a recommendation will be made. Prior to making a recommendation for services, a member of the student assistance team may meet with the student to review the basis of possible intervention. If the information warrants, parental involvement may be sought. If the recommendation is made that the student receive a comprehensive chemical use assessment, the student and parent or legal guardian, when appropriate, will be presented several choices of community social service providers for the assessment. If there is no supporting evidence of chemical use, the referral will be tabled and reactivated if new information is presented.

When a student is found to be in possession of, selling, distributing or using controlled substances, alcohol, steroids, inhalants, and/or other mood-altering substances, the student will be required to receive a chemical use assessment by an outside agency. The principal or designee shall take such disciplinary action as are indicated in the District's Code of Student Conduct, and shall notify the student and parent(s) or legal guardian, when appropriate, that the student will be required to receive a comprehensive chemical use assessment by an outside agency.

When a student has committed a serious infraction resulting in mandatory suspension under the District's Code of Student Conduct, the student assistance team must be notified. If the student assistance team concludes that the student needs a chemical use assessment, the principal or designee shall take such disciplinary actions as are indicated in the code. The principal or designee shall notify the student and parent(s) or legal guardian, when appropriate, that the student will be required to receive a chemical use assessment by an outside agency. When the serious infraction results in an administrative transfer, the student assistance team's recommendation must be completed prior to the transfer.

417.00 CHEMICAL USE AND ABUSE (Continued)

Identification And Referral Of Students Who May Have Chemical Use Problems (Continued)

When the student assistance team members and the principal conclude that a student needs a chemical use assessment, the principal or designee shall notify the student and parent(s) or legal guardian, when appropriate, that the student will be requested to receive chemical use assessment by an outside agency.

If a student refuses a required chemical use assessment, or fails to comply with the recommendations prescribed by the assessment, one or more of the following actions will be taken:

- The principal shall refer the case to the building pupil problems committee.
- If this situation is not resolved by the building pupil problems committee, the principal shall refer the case to the city-wide pupil problems committee. The city-wide pupil problems committee will determine if the student can continue in a school program without immediate and substantial harm to the student or others, or if a recommendation should be made that the school board begin dismissal proceedings under the provisions of the Minnesota Pupil Fair Dismissal Act.
- A referral may be made to county human services authorities.
- A peace officer or health officer will be called in those cases where it is determined the student's behavior may endanger self or other persons or property.

CROSS REFERENCES:

INSTRUCTION/Chemical Use and Abuse;
STUDENTS/Discipline; STUDENTS/Medications

LEGAL REFERENCES: