

STUDENT DRUG, ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO USE RANGELEY SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

NEPN/NSBA CODE: JICH

In order to promote the highest possible standards of learning, as well as the physical, social and emotional well-being of students, this policy is designed to: aid students in abstaining from the unlawful use of tobacco, alcohol and drugs; provide for early intervention when use is detected; and, provide disciplinary action when necessary. Compliance with this policy is mandatory.

Any school staff member who has reason to suspect that a student has violated the policy is expected to report the incident to an appropriate administrator immediately.

A. Prevention

Rangeley Lakes Regional School will provide students with information and activities focused on abstaining from the use of alcohol, drugs and tobacco. Such information and activities will address the legal, social and health consequences of drug, alcohol and tobacco use and will provide information about effective techniques for resisting peer pressure to use illicit drugs, alcohol and tobacco. Rangeley Lakes Regional School will work in partnership with students, parents/guardians and local law enforcement officials to eliminate these risks for all students. As capacity allows, students and appropriate student groups, will be supported to participate in the tobacco-free school initiative, including but not limited to, increasing policy awareness, implementing policy compliance strategies and educating students on the danger of tobacco use and second-hand smoke exposure.

Age appropriate tobacco prevention and use and exposure education will be incorporated into the comprehensive health education curriculum in alignment with the Maine Learning Results' Health Education Standards and will include awareness of the tobacco-free policy.

B. Intervention

Rangeley Lakes Regional School has personnel (school nurse, social worker, health instructor) to provide non-clinical chemical health assessments, assist students in addressing their harmful involvement with chemicals and in continuing their educational program. Information will be provided, as appropriate, about drug, alcohol or tobacco counseling and treatment, and programs that are available to student.

C. Rules and Sanctions

Students are prohibited from consuming, possessing, furnishing, selling, receiving, buying, manufacturing or being under the influence of prohibited substances before, during and after school hours, at school, in any school building, on any school premises, in any school-owned vehicle or in any other school-approved activity, event or function (such as a field trip or athletic event) where students are under the jurisdiction of the school unit, or at any time or place if the conduct directly interferes with the operation, discipline or welfare of the schools.

The term "prohibited substance" shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Alcohol;
2. Scheduled drugs (as defined in 17-A MRSA § 1101);
3. Controlled substances (as defined in the federal Controlled Substances Act, 21 USC § 812);

4. Tobacco products of any kind; Including but not limited to: cigarettes, cigars, spit and smokeless tobacco, chew, snuff, snus, electronic cigarettes, vape products and other nicotine delivery systems.
5. Any performance-enhancing substance listed on the Maine Department of Health and Human Services' banned substances list and any other substance which is illegal in Maine or the use of which is illegal for minors;
6. Prescription drugs not prescribed for the student and/or not in compliance with the Board's policy on administering medications to student (see Board policy JLCD);
7. Any substance which can affect or change a student's mental, physical or behavior pattern, including but not limited to volatile materials such as glue, paint or aerosols (when possessed for the purpose of inhalation) or steroids;
8. Paraphernalia – implements used for distribution or consumption of a prohibited substance; or
9. Any look-alike drug or substance that is described as or is purported to be a prohibited substance defined in this section.

Any violation of the terms of this policy shall constitute sufficient grounds for student discipline, including suspension or expulsion from school, at the appropriate discretion of the administration and the Board. Appropriate law enforcement authority shall also be notified of violations of this policy.

This policy shall be disseminated to students and parents/guardians through means selected by the administration.

Legal References: 21 USC 812 (Controlled Substance Act); 21 CFR Part 1300. 11-15
20 USC 7101 et seq. (Safe Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act) 17-A MRSA 1101 42 USC 290dd-2; 42 CFS 2.1 et seq. 22 MRSA 1578- B Me PL 470 (An Act to Reduce Tobacco Use by Minors) 20 USC 6081 (Pro-Children Act of 2001)

Cross Reference:

JIC - Student Code of Conduct

JICH-R - Student Use of Drug and Alcohol: Extra-Curricular Participation (Athletic)

JICIA – Weapons, Violence, Bullying and School Safety

JKD – Suspension of Student

JLCD – Administering Medications to Students

JRA – Student Education Records

Revised: September 12, 2019; reviewed 4.3.2023