

**DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE**

It has been adequately demonstrated that substance abuse activity impairs the ability of a young person to perform at his/her full capability in an academic setting. The Board of Education is committed to the prevention of alcohol or illegal or controlled substance use/abuse. Therefore, the following substance abuse policy of the Hewlett-Woodmere School District is designed to promote healthy life styles for its students and to inhibit the use/abuse of alcohol and other illegal substances.

No student may use, possess, sell, distribute or be under the influence of alcohol or other illegal or controlled substances on school grounds, at school-sponsored or supervised events, or while off school grounds during the school day. The possession or use of drug paraphernalia or the inappropriate use of prescription and over-the-counter drugs shall also be prohibited. Students found in violation of this policy will be subject to a long term or permanent suspension.

The term "alcohol and/or other substances" shall be construed throughout this policy to refer to all illegal or controlled substances including, but not limited to, alcohol, inhalants, marijuana, cocaine, LSD, PCP, amphetamines, depressants, heroin, steroids, and "designer drugs" and any of those substances as defined under §§ 220 and 221 of the New York State Penal Law. Under § 220.00 of the New York State Penal Law "sell" means to sell, exchange, give or dispose of to another or to offer or agree to do the same. The gratuitous gift of an illegal or controlled substance would constitute a sale.

In order to educate students on the dangers associated with substance abuse, the Board of Education offers a health curriculum for grades K-12 that includes instruction concerning drug use and abuse.

Policy Adopted: May 13, 1965

Amended: February 14, 2002

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**Faculty and Staff Responsibilities**

Any staff member observing or having reasonable suspicion of a student selling, possessing, using, or being under the influence of alcohol or an illegal or controlled substance on school grounds or during school sponsored or school supervised events, shall report the incident immediately to the building principal or to his/her designee.

**Administrative Procedures**

The principal or his/her designee shall take immediate action. The school nurse shall be notified and provide medical/first aid attention as necessary. Any illegal or controlled substances, alcohol, or drug paraphernalia found shall be confiscated immediately. Parents and/or guardians will be notified.

**Regulation 5312.1**  
**Page 2.**

Any illegal or controlled substance or drug paraphernalia, which is confiscated, will be retained and given to the police. A receipt for this material will be requested. In its effort to maintain a drug-free environment, the school district will cooperate to the fullest extent possible with local, state and federal agencies.

Penalties

Such student will be subject to a mandatory suspension of up to five days. A suspended student may also be subject to a Superintendent's hearing and subject to a long-term suspension following due process, in accordance with the law. Suspension from school includes exclusion from in-school instruction, as well as from any and all school sponsored activities whether on or off school grounds.

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