

WINDSOR LOCKS PUBLIC SCHOOLS



BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Regular Meeting

February 10, 2022

6:00 p.m.

Ella Grasso Conference Room - Town Hall

**In Person Attendance Open to All
Optional Public Attendance via Zoom,**

[Click Here to Register](#)

Windsor Locks Board of Education

Dennis Gagnolati, Chairman

Kylee Christianson, Vice Chairwoman

Margaret Byrne

Jim McGowan

Joe Tria

Superintendent of Schools

Shawn Parkhurst

MISSION STATEMENT AND CORE BELIEFS

The WLPS will create and sustain a community of life-long learners where all students are engaged, empowered and expected to achieve at the highest levels and to become responsible, contributing citizens in an ever-changing, global society.

In order to achieve our mission our students will receive a world class education that:

- Challenges each student to meet and exceed high expectations through a stimulating, rigorous and challenging curriculum;
- Enables each student to think critically, work collaboratively, and display the confidence necessary to be successful in a diverse and complex society;
- Prepares each student to be an adaptable risk taker who is proud to invest in the future;
- Prepare each student to use all of the technological resources available to complete research, solve problems, and identify creative solutions;
- Develops individuals who are open-minded, respectful, and compassionate,
- Develops honest, interdependent, skilled future leaders and independent thinkers who will become the world's problem solvers;
- Enriches the skills and talents of each student to be inventive and ready to achieve a sustainable future;
- Invites the entire community to be involved in providing a well-rounded education; which
- Inspires each student to become an active member of our community, the nation, and the world.

Regular Meeting - Agenda
February 10, 2022 - 6:00 p.m.
Windsor Locks Board of Education
Ella T. Grasso Conference Room - Town Hall
In Person Attendance Open
Optional Public Attendance via Zoom, [Click Here to Register](#)

- Goal 1: Windsor Locks Public Schools will ensure that all students are engaged in their learning and challenged to achieve, grow, and demonstrate mastery.
- Goal 2: Windsor Locks Public Schools will use research-based leadership and best workplace practices to ensure achievement, growth and mastery for all.
- Goal 3: Windsor Locks Public Schools will support every student through a diverse network of caring adults.
- Goal 4: Windsor Locks Public Schools will provide a positive, equitable, safe and healthy climate for adults and students, to learn how to sustain and promote healthy living.

- I. Call to Order
- A. Roll Call
 - B. Pledge of Allegiance
 - C. Student Representative Report
 - D. Board of Education and Superintendent Communications
- II. Public Audience (only on Agenda Items)
- A. *In Accordance with BOE Policy 1100 - The Windsor Locks Board of Education (Board) Chairperson shall recognize speakers, request proper identification and maintain proper order. The Board shall hear only concerns, views and opinions on topics within the jurisdiction of the Board. The appropriateness of the subject being presented, the suitability of the time for such presentation, the number of speakers, and the time to be allowed for public comment will be determined by the Chairperson. The public is advised that any discussion of specific employees will not be allowed at meetings and should be addressed to the employee's immediate supervisor or the Superintendent.*
- III. Approval of Minutes: **Vote Needed** p. 5 Exhibit III
- 1/27/22 Regular Meeting
- IV. Committee Reports
- A. Policy - Next Meeting: TBD
 - 1. Policy First Read: p. 13 Exhibit IV A 1
 - Revision:
 - 4118.11; 4218.11 Personnel - Certified/Non-Certified Nondiscrimination

- 4118.23; 4218.23 Personnel Certified/Non-Certified Staff Use and Possession of Smoking Products, Tobacco Products, Drugs and Alcohol
 - 5131.6 Students: Alcohol Use, Drugs, and Tobacco
 - New Policies:
 - 5141.21 Students: Administering Medication (Naloxone)
 - 6148 FAFSA Completion Program
- B. Curriculum - Next Meeting: 3/2/22
 - 1. New Curriculum Proposal: **Vote Needed** p. 43 Exhibit IV B 1
- C. Finance - Next Meeting: 2/15/22
- V. Progress Toward Goals p. 44 Exhibit V
 - Chronic Absenteeism
 - iReady Mid Year Benchmark
- VI. Mask in Schools Update: **Vote Possible** p. 50 Exhibit VI
- VII. BOE School Liaisons
- VIII. Public Audience (General)
 - A. *In Accordance with BOE Policy 1100 - The Windsor Locks Board of Education (Board) Chairperson shall recognize speakers, request proper identification and maintain proper order. The Board shall hear only concerns, views and opinions on topics within the jurisdiction of the Board. The appropriateness of the subject being presented, the suitability of the time for such presentation, the number of speakers, and the time to be allowed for public comment will be determined by the Chairperson. The public is advised that any discussion of specific employees will not be allowed at meetings and should be addressed to the employee's immediate supervisor or the Superintendent.*
- IX. Board and Superintendent Comment
- X. Executive Session: To adjourn the meeting to Executive Session as permitted by Connecticut General Statutes Section 1-225(a) for the following purposes as allowed by Section 1-200(6), that is:
 - A. Discussion of Superintendent of Schools' Contract
 - That attendance in the Executive Session shall be limited to:
 - Members of the Board of Education
- XI. Adjourn to Public Session
- XII. Action, if any, on Executive Session Items: **Vote Possible**
- XIII. Adjourn Meeting

For the Chairperson of the Board of Education
 Shawn L. Parkhurst - Superintendent of Schools
 Copy: Town Clerk - Please Post

MEMORANDUM TO: MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
FROM: SHAWN L. PARKHURST, SUPERINTENDENT
DATE: FEBRUARY 10, 2022
RE: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- January 27, 2022

Windsor Locks Board of Education
58 South Elm Street
Windsor Locks, CT 06096

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING,
January 27, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

These minutes are not official until approved at a subsequent meeting.

Members Present: (In-person) D. Gragnolati, K. Christianson, M. Byrne
J. McGowan and J. Tria
Members Absent: None
Administrators: (In-person) S. Parkhurst, S. Lee, and D. Solin
(Via Zoom) D. Prinstein, R. Bissonnette, M. Briggs, G. Testani,
C. Domler, C. Apanovitch, H. Earley, G. Weigert, J. Robinson, K.
Krupa, M. Parrette, L. Ciaffaglione and A. Goodwin
Student Representatives: R. Lucas, C. Mackey and C. MacDougald
Students: None
Staff: D. Bole and many others
Others: (total of 29 participants)
Press: None

I. Call to Order

Chairman Mr. Dennis Gragnolati called the Regular Meeting to Order at 6:02 p.m. held at the Town Hall in the Ella T. Grasso Conference Room and also via Zoom Meeting and live stream.

A. Roll Call for Quorum

All Board Members were present.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

All stood up and pledged allegiance to the flag.

C. Student Representative Report

Miss Ryan Lucas, Student Representative, addressed the Board. She reported the senior class is sponsoring a fundraiser just in time for Valentine's Day. The seniors will be selling candy grams.

Mr. Caden Mackey, Student Representative, addressed the Board. He proudly announced the plans are being finalized for the prom which will be held May 6, 2022 at the Brass Rail in Southwick, Massachusetts. He also mentioned the boys' and girls' basketball teams are doing well thus far in the season.

Ms. Carley MacDougald, Student Representative, echoed Mr. Mackey's comments.

D. Board of Education and Superintendent Communications

Vice-Chair Ms. Christianson also commented on the basketball teams, as she has attended a few and they are doing great this season!

Mr. Shawn Parkhurst, Superintendent of Schools, addressed the Board. He began speaking of the big news about the SAT exam. It will be digital for all students beginning 2024. He noted that the district has been preparing on how to administer the digital exam. Ms. Bissonnette indicated all tests administered during the school day will be administered digitally. Mr. Parkhurst noted he participated with Ms. Lee and Ms. Ciaffaglione with Ms. Kelly's business class, which was conducting interviews. They were very impressed with the questions the students had posed to the interviewees. The first Bradley Chamber Meeting was held recently. The Chamber has a new Chair with new ideas, including breaking up group in smaller committees to accomplish goals. *Education Everywhere* is getting a facelift and will be pushed out in real time segments rather than all at once every two weeks. He thanked the First Selectman, Mr. Paul Harington and Chairman Mr. Dennis Gagnolati for participating in the building walk-around in December. In January, the PLC sessions were put on pause for self-care, and feed back from the staff to being the new year. The budget meetings have been ongoing and he thanked the Board Members for their input and conversations during the budget process. Lastly, he welcomed back live music at the middle school. The concert will be streamed, and a limited number of tickets will be available.

II. Public Audience (Only on Agenda Items) in Accordance with BOE Policy 9020

Chairman Mr. Gagnolati asked anyone who would like to make a public comment, please write the comment in the chat box or raise their hand and she will unmute the microphone.

None.

III. Approval of Minutes

- **November 18, 2021 Regular Meeting**

It was noted an error in the minutes in Section V. Public Audience, Paragraph 1, Line 1 as follows:

“former teacher, _____ of 120 South ... “

to

““former teacher, Ms. Tika Bilbo of 120 South ... “

It was **MOVED** (Christianson) and **SECONDED** (Tria) and **PASSED** (U) that the Board of Education accepts the November 18, 2021, as amended.

- **November 23, 2021 Special Meeting**

It was **MOVED** (Christianson) and **SECONDED** (Tria) and **PASSED** (U) that the Board of Education accepts the Minutes of the November 23, 2021 Special Meeting, as presented.

- **November 30, 2021 Special Meeting**

It was **MOVED** (Christianson) and **SECONDED** (McGowan) and **PASSED** (U) that the Board of Education accepts the Minutes of the November 30, 2021 Special Meeting, as presented.

- **December 8, 2021 Special Meetings (3)**

It was **MOVED** (Christianson) and **SECONDED** (Tria) and **PASSED** (U) that the Board of Education accepts the Minutes of the three Special Meetings of December 8, 2021, as presented.

- **December 21, 2021 Special Meeting**

It was **MOVED** (Christianson) and **SECONDED** (McGowan) and **PASSED** (3-0-1) (In Favor: K. Christianson, J. McGowan, J. Tria; Opposed: None; Abstained: M. Byrne) that the Board of Education accepts the Minutes of the December 21, 2021 Special Meeting, as presented.

- **January 8, 2022 Special Meeting**

It was **MOVED** (Christianson) and **SECONDED** (Tria) and **PASSED** (U) that the Board of Education accepts the Minutes of the January 8, 2022 Special Meeting, as presented.

IV. Personnel Report

A. Resignation

Ms. Sheri Lee, Director of Human Resources, addressed the Board. She commented that Ms. Laurie Kustra, a Special Education Teacher at Windsor Locks High School has resigned effective January 1, 2022. At the time of her resignation, Ms. Kustra will have served the students of Windsor Locks for twenty-one (21) years.

It was **MOVED** (Christianson) and **SECONDED** (Tria) and **PASSED** (U) that the Board of Education accepts Ms. Kustra's resignation effective January 1, 2022 and offer her our appreciation for all of her efforts on behalf of the students of the Windsor Locks Public Schools.

B. Board Certified Behavior Analyst

Ms. Sheri Lee, Director of Human Resources and Mr. Josh Robinson, Director of Special Services, addressed the Board. They were seeking approval for the salary of the new position that job description was approved on September 23, 2021 for a Board Certified Behavior Analyst. This is a grant funded position and replaces the contracted services used in the past. They showed two charts break down the salaries for BCBA Eligible versus BCBA Certified which ranged from \$70,000 up to \$100,00 depending on years of experience and number of steps.

A brief discussion was held.

It was **MOVED** (Christianson) and **SECONDED** (McGowan) and **PASSED** (U) that the Board of Education approves the salary proposals for the BCBA position approved on September 23, 2021, which has a grant funded position and replaces the contracted services used in the past.

V. Committee Reports

A. Policy-Next Meeting – February 9, 2022

B. Curriculum – Next Meeting – February 16, 2022

1. Approval of Minutes

It was **MOVED** (Christianson) and **SECONDED** (McGowan) and **PASSED** (U) that the Board of Education accepts the Minutes of the Curriculum Subcommittee December 7, 2021 Regular Meeting, as presented.

C. Finance – Next Meeting February 15, 2022

VI. Progress Towards Goals

A. Chronic Absenteeism

Mr. Parkhurst remarked that the Windsor Locks Public Schools continues to closely monitor student attendance with the goal to reduce chronic absenteeism district wide under 10%. Chronic absenteeism by district and school cumulatively through December 23, 2021 for all learners. He showed a table explaining the numbers. The table displayed the absenteeism by district and each school for September, 2021 (which didn't split the percentages due to COVID) and October, 2021 through December, 2021 was shown, splitting up the percentages as to what percentage was due to quarantining and isolation due to COVID. Currently at the district level, absenteeism is at 28.4%, which is a

decrease from September by 0.5%. He discussed each school's numbers in detail.

B. iReady Usage and Lessons Passed

The next tables discussed was iReady Data on Usage and Lessons passed through January 7, 2022 in Reading and Math for Grades K-8. The data was grade level usages and lessons passed for the week ending January 7, 2022. He noted that all grade levels in both math and reading exceeding the percentage of lessons passed are at 70% with a goal of 100%.

A brief discussion was held.

VII. Covid Protocols

Mr. Parkhurst indicated in the Board packets Pages 36-39 are the listings of the COVID-19 protocols which are in practice in the Windsor Locks Public Schools. Ms. Lisa Ciaffaglione is on the meeting and will be able to answer any questions the Board may have. She discussed the isolation and quarantining guidelines that were published by the Centers for Disease Control. She discussed the guidelines, such as, staying home when not feeling well, what to do if you test positive regardless of vaccination status and what do if your exposed and vaccinated or not fully vaccinated. She discussed elementary quarantine expectations and middle/high school quarantine expectations. COVID-19 test kits are available in each school and will be distributed to staff and/or students who was symptomatic or develop symptoms during the school day after consultation with the nursing staff.

A brief discussion was held discussing school sports and CIAC guidelines.

VIII. Approval of Custodial Union Contract

Ms. Sheri Lee, Director of Human Resources, addressed the Board. She noted the revised proposed custodial contract has been put in the Board packet. This contract has been negotiated over the last few months. At this time, she is requesting the Board to approve the contract as presented. She noted that there was an error in the contract that she discovered and has made that correction.

It was **MOVED** (Byrne) and **SECONDED** (Tria) and **PASSED** (U) that the Board of Education approves the Custodial Contract as presented.

IX. FY-2022-2023 Budget

Mr. Parkhurst indicated that in the Board packets, there was a blue folder which had the updated budget information for their review. He explained at the January 8, 2022 meeting, he presented a 0.84% increase in the overall budget. At the conclusion of the budget workshop meeting on January 8, 2022, the Board of Education requested to revise the proposal by adding 2.0 FTE Elementary teachers, 1.0FTE Elementary gifted and talented teacher; add 1.0 FTE Elementary teacher, reinstate EL tutor, reinstate 5.0 FTE teacher-in-

resident positions and to reinstate operating expense that were previously being paid for by ARP grant funding. He added slides to his PowerPoint presentation. He showed the slide describing the vision of the graduate of Windsor Locks Public Schools which includes creative and practical problem solver, clear and effective communicator, responsible citizen, self-directed learner and collaborative worker and an informed thinker. The next slide showed two groupings – one grouping in blue and the other grouping in green. It described the budget item, the cost of the item, the addition to the total budget, amount of the increase and the percentage of the increase to the budget. The blue grouped items were the items the Board requested to be put back in the budget. The green grouped items were items that were in the operating budget but funded through ARP grant funds. The bottom line of the increase was \$1,744,441.24 over last year's budget or a 5.56% increase or a total budget of \$33,125,125.40. The next slide described his recommendation for the Board to consider, which showed an increase of \$1,110,922.72 or an increase of 3.54% over last year's budget or a total of \$32,491,606.88. Using grant funds to fund some of the budget items, thereby reducing the proposed budget.

A lengthy discussion was held discussing special education out-placement costs and how those costs vary from year to year depending on children moving in and out of the district. The conversation continued discussing the ESSR Grant (ARP) and the possibility of using that money for a major capital improvement, such as, air conditioning, rather than using it in the operating budget as these funds are only a one-time only.

It was **MOVED** (Byrne) and **SECONDED** (McGowan) that the Board of Education adapts the FY 2022-2024 budget in the amount of \$31,125,125.45 or a 5.56 % increase over last year's budget.

A brief discussion was held.

A vote was taken:

In Favor: M. Byrne, J. McGowan and K. Christianson
Opposed: D. Gagnolati and J. Tria

Motion: **PASSED** (3-2)

It was **MOVED** (Byrne) and **SECONDED** (Christianson) and **PASSED** (U) that the Board of Education to move Agenda Item No.: XI. Public Audience before Agenda Item No.: X Board and Superintendent Comment.

X. Public Audience (General)

None

XI. Board and Superintendent Comment

Board Member Ms. Byrne commented about an email asking why the meetings are not public meetings. She is confused as the meetings are public meetings, but they are just not

in-person. Chairman Mr. Gragnolati noted due to COVID and the rising number of cases recently, the meetings have been remote. Mr. Parkhurst commented the last First Selectman signed an executive order wherein the Chair of Boards and Commissions have the option of having the meetings done remotely or in-person. The reason the meetings are being held at the Town Hall is due to the quality of the audio system.

Mr. Parkhurst noted a few upcoming events in the district, including the vaccine clinic offering vaccines and boosters for anyone 12 and up on February 11, 2022.

XII. Adjournment

It was **MOVED** (Christianson) and **SECONDED** (Tria) and **PASSED** (U) that the Board of Education adjourns the Regular Meeting of January 27, 2022 at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise M. Piotrowicz
Recording Secretary

MEMORANDUM TO: MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

FROM: SHERI LEE, DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES

DATE: FEBRUARY 10, 2022

RE: POLICY FIRST READ

- **Revision First Read:**
 - **4118.11; 4218.11** Personnel - Certified/Non-Certified Nondiscrimination
 - **4118.231; 4218.231** Personnel Certified/Non-Certified Staff Use and Possession of Smoking Products, Tobacco Products, Drugs and Alcohol
 - **5131.6** Students: Alcohol Use, Drugs, and Tobacco
- **New First Read:**
 - **5141.21** Students: Administering Medication (Naloxone)
 - **6148** FAFSA Completion Program

Personnel -- Certified/Non-Certified

4118.11/4218.11 - Nondiscrimination

In compliance with regulations of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, the Board of Education (Board) adopts the following Equal Employment Opportunity Policy.

Equal Employment Opportunity

Both federal and state law prohibits discriminatory practices in hiring and employment. The Board prohibits discriminatory acts in all district matters dealing with employees and applicants for positions and requires equal employment opportunities for all employees and applicants. As an equal opportunity employer, the Board does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religious creed, age, veterans' status, genetic information, marital status, national origin, ancestry, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, pregnancy, physical disability, past or present history of mental disorder, intellectual disability, learning disability, or any other legally protected status, regarding any qualified individual who can perform the essential functions of the job with or without reasonable accommodations.

Employees/or applicants shall not be discriminated against with respect to terms and conditions of employment, including but not limited to:

Hiring and Promotion

Compensation

Job Assignments

Leaves of Absence

Fringe Benefits

The District recognizes that it is a discriminatory practice to request or require, on an initial employment application, a prospective employee's age, date of birth, dates of attendance at or date of graduation from an educational institution on an initial employment application, unless requesting or requiring such information is based on a bona fide occupational qualification or need, or when such information is required to comply with any provision of state or federal law.

There are various forms of discrimination. Sexual harassment is a form of discrimination and is governed by Policy #4118.112/4218.2. Harassment may be a form of discrimination if based upon the target's membership in a protected class and is governed by Policy #4118.113/4218.113. Discrimination on the basis of disabilities is prohibited and is governed by Policy #4118.14/4218.14.

"Race" is inclusive of ethnic traits historically associated with race, including, but not limited to, hair texture and protective hairstyles.

Grievance Procedure

The Superintendent shall establish regulations to accompany this policy. Such regulations shall, at a minimum, contain a Grievance Procedure providing for the prompt and equitable investigation

and resolution of complaints concerning allegations of discrimination and harassment based upon violations of the following: The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title IX, Title VI, and Title VII.

The Grievance Procedure shall be disseminated widely and regularly in accordance with the regulations accompanying this policy.

The Superintendent shall appoint individuals to serve the role of District Civil Rights Coordinators/Compliance Officers. The names and contact information for such individuals will be published annually.

Federal civil rights laws prohibit discrimination and/or retaliation against an individual because he/she has opposed any discriminatory act or practice or because that person has filed a charge, testified, assisted or participated in an investigation, proceeding or hearing. The Board shall not retaliate against any person for these types of protected activities, or coerce, intimidate, threaten or interfere with an individual for exercising the rights guaranteed under these federal laws.

Legal Reference:

Connecticut General Statutes

10-15c Discrimination in public schools prohibited. School attendance by five-year olds (as amended by PA 21-2 §441.)

10-153 Discrimination on account of marital status.

46a-51 Definitions as amended by PA 17-127 and PA 21-2)

46a-60 Discriminatory employment practices prohibited.

P.A. 11-55 An Act Concerning Discrimination

Federal Law

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

Section 504 and the Federal Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 20 U.S.C. 706(7)(b).

Americans With Disability Act of 1990, as amended by the ADA Amendments Act of 2008

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972.

The Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, as amended, 38 U.S.C. §4212

Title II of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008

Policy Adopted: August 1988

Revised: November 1992, January 1993, October 2018, November 18, 2021,
Proposed February 2022

R4118.11/4218.11- Nondiscrimination

Grievance Procedure for Use by Employees, Students and Third Parties

The purpose of this procedure is to secure, at the lowest possible administrative level, equitable solutions to problems which may arise concerning claims of discrimination. Evidence of reprisal against a complainant or witness shall be viewed as a violation of this policy.

Any person who wishes to inquire or to register a complaint concerning alleged discrimination in the Windsor Locks Public Schools shall have an opportunity to bring such concerns to the attention of one of the District's Civil Rights Coordinators or Compliance Officers (i.e. Title IX Coordinator, 504 Coordinator) or the Superintendent, who has the authority to resolve such complaints.

The following Grievance Procedure shall be utilized by any student, parent, employee or third party in making a complaint or inquiry regarding discrimination. The Grievance Procedure applies to any form of alleged discrimination prohibited by state or federal law and/or Board policy.

Level I: The complainant shall discuss the alleged discriminatory act or practice with the appropriate Civil Right Coordinator/Compliance Officer or the individual closest to the daily decision-making level. This will normally be a Principal, teacher, counselor, Department Chairperson, Head Custodian, or Cafeteria Manager. If satisfaction cannot be achieved through informal discussion, the following procedure may be initiated.

Level II: The complainant shall, within forty (40) calendar days of the alleged incident, on forms provided, put the complaint in writing and file it with the appropriate Civil Rights Coordinator/Compliance Officer. Within five (5) working days of receipt of the complaint, a conference must be held. Within five (5) working days following the conference, the complaint must be resolved to the satisfaction of both parties or be referred to the Superintendent of Schools. Within five (5) working days, the Civil Rights Coordinator/Compliance Officer shall notify the Superintendent and must notify the complainant of this notification. The Board will be apprised by the Superintendent of any grievance reaching Level II.

Level III: Within ten (10) working days after receipt of notification by the Civil Rights Coordinator/Compliance Officer, the Superintendent must hold a hearing with the complainant; and within five (5) working days of the hearing, resolve the complaint or issue a determination.

Level IV: The Board of Education, Superintendent, and the Civil Rights Coordinators/Officers shall proceed in accordance with appropriate laws or regulations and provide the Complainant written notice of the final outcome in a timely fashion.

If discrimination is found, immediate and appropriate action will be taken to stop the discrimination and deter its recurrence. The Board is committed to providing a safe educational environment free from discrimination.

In addition to the internal complaint procedures set forth herein, complaints of discrimination and/or discriminatory harassment can be reported to:

Office for Civil Rights
U.S. Department of Education
5 Post Office Square, 8th Floor
Boston, MA 02109-3921
Telephone: 617-289-0111
Fax: 617-289-0150; TDD: 877-521-2172
Email: OCR.Boston@ed.gov
<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/complaintintro.html>

Dissemination of Grievance Procedures

To effectively inform all concerned persons about the process of grieving a complaint, the adopted Grievance Procedures is to be disseminated to students, parents/guardians, employees, and other interested parties. This information must be provided on a continuing basis. This Grievance Procedure shall be disseminated in a variety of ways, including, but not limited to, dissemination in: student/parent handbooks; bulletins or postings in district schools with the name of the coordinators posted on the school and/or district website; via a letter home to each student at the beginning of each school year and/or included as part of a school orientation package or employee orientation packet.

Public Notice of Non Discrimination

Public Schools shall provide continuing notice to the public, personnel, and students that it does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religious creed, age, veterans' status, genetic information, marital status, national origin, ancestry, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, pregnancy, physical disability, past or present history of mental disorder, intellectual disability, learning disability or other legally protected status with regard to admission or access to, or treatment or employment in programs and activities of the school district. Continuing notification may include the posting of notices, publication in local newspapers, and placement of notices in school publications, in student/parent handbooks, on district websites and through distribution of memoranda or other written communication.

Legal Reference:

Connecticut General Statutes

[10-153](#) Discrimination on account of marital status.

[46a-60](#) Discriminatory employment practices prohibited.

P.A. 11-55 An Act Concerning Discrimination

Federal Law

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

Section 504 and the Federal Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 20 U.S.C. 706(7)(b).

Americans With Disability Act of 1990, as amended by the ADA Amendments Act of 2008

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972.

The Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, as amended, 38 U.S.C. §4212

Title II of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008

Regulation Approved: October 2018

Revised: November 18, 2021

Personnel - Certified and Non-Certified

4118.231/4218.231 – Staff Use and Possession of Smoking Products, Tobacco Products, Drugs and Alcohol

The Board of Education (Board) is concerned with maintaining a safe and healthy environment for District staff, students and visitors to District schools and facilities. Accordingly, the Board prohibits the use or possession of smoking products, tobacco products, drugs and alcohol in all facilities operated by the Board, on school grounds, or during any activity sponsored by the Board, or on transportation vehicles under the jurisdiction of the Board. **The Board recognizes the importance of maintaining an environment for its staff and students that is drug and alcohol free. Reasonable steps will be taken to create a safe workplace free from the effects of alcohol, second-hand smoke and drug abuse.**

Employees must abide by the terms of this policy as a condition of employment. This policy is adopted in accordance with state law and the Drug Free Workplace Act.

Alcohol and Drugs

The Board recognizes the importance of maintaining a drug-free environment for its staff and students. In compliance with federal and state requirements, employees are prohibited from the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession or use on or in the workplace of any alcohol, narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana or any other controlled substance. Controlled drugs are further defined in Schedules I through V of Section 202 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812) and as further defined by regulation at 21 C.F.R. 1308.11 through 1308.15.

The "workplace" is defined to mean the site for the performance of work done; that includes any school building or any school premises, any school-owned vehicle or any other school-approved vehicle used to transport students to and from school or school activities, off school property during any school-sponsored or school-approved activity, event or function, such as a field trip or athletic event, where students are under the jurisdiction of the school District.

As a condition of employment, each employee shall notify his or her supervisor of his or her conviction for any criminal drug statute violation occurring in the workplace as defined above, no later than five (5) calendar days after such conviction. For the purposes of this policy, conviction means a finding of guilt, including a plea no contest, or imposition of sentence, or both, by any judicial body charged with the responsibility to determine violations of the Federal or state criminal drug statutes. A criminal drug statute is a Federal or state statute involving the manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession or use of any controlled substance.

As a condition of employment, each employee shall abide by the terms of District policy and regulations respecting a drug-free and alcohol-free workplace.

As a condition of employment, an employee who violates the terms of this policy may be required to complete successfully an appropriate rehabilitation program, or may be subject to disciplinary

action, including, but not limited to, nonrenewal, suspension or termination of employment, at the discretion of the Board and/or the employee's referral to law enforcement.

Tobacco

There shall be no smoking or other use of tobacco products on school property or on transportation provided by the Board, or during the course of any trip sponsored by the Board or under the supervision of the Board or its authorized agents.

For the purposes of this policy, "tobacco product" is defined to include, but is not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, blunts, bidis, pipes, chewing tobacco and all other forms of smokeless tobacco, including, but not limited to, an electronic nicotine delivery system or vape product, rolling papers and any other items containing or reasonably resembling tobacco or tobacco products,

Signs shall be posted in a conspicuous place in District schools and in other District facilities or buildings stating that such use is prohibited by state law.

Promulgation of Rules

A copy of this policy, and the consequences of violating the policy, shall be distributed to all employees of the Board. Employees shall be kept informed of any further steps in the District's drug-free awareness program, including possible information on rehabilitation programs.

Definitions

"Cannabis" means marijuana which includes all parts of a plant or species of the genus cannabis, whether growing or not, and including its seeds and resin; its compounds, manufactures, salts, derivatives, mixtures, and preparations; and cannabimon, cannabinol, cannabidiol (CBD), and similar compounds unless derived from hemp as defined in federal law. The definition of marijuana also include any product made using hemp, as defined in state law, with more than 0.3% total THC concentration on a dry-weight basis, manufactured cannabinoids, and certain synthetic cannabinoids.

"Cannabis product" is cannabis in the form of a cannabis concentrate or a product that contains cannabis, which may be combined with other ingredients, and is intended for use or consumption.

"Cannabis concentrate" is any form of concentration extracted from cannabis, such as extracts, oils, tinctures, shatter, and waxes.

"Medical marijuana product" is cannabis that (1) dispensary facilities and hybrid retailers exclusively sell to qualifying patients and caregivers and (2) the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP) designates on its website as reserved for sale to those individuals.

"Manufactured cannabinoid" means cannabinoids naturally occurring from a source other than marijuana that are similar in chemical structure or physiological effect to cannabinoids derived from marijuana, but that are derived by a chemical or biological process.

"Workplace" means the site for the performance of work done, which includes work done in connection with a federal grant. The workplace includes any District building or property; any District-owned vehicle or any other District-approved vehicle used to transport students to and from school or school activities; and off-District property during any school-sponsored or school approved activity, event or function, such as a field trip or athletic event, where students are under the jurisdiction/supervision of the District, which could also include work on a federal grant.

"School-sponsored activity" means any activity sponsored, recognized, or authorized by the Board and includes activities conducted on or off school property.

"Drug" is defined as:

1. **"Controlled substances"** which includes all forms of narcotics, depressants, stimulants, hallucinogens, steroids, and cannabis (including products made with or infused with these substances) whose sale, purchase, transfer, use, or possession is prohibited or restricted by state or federal law;
2. **"Synthetic cannabinoids"** which include drugs which are known or advertised as possibly affecting judgment, coordination, or any of the senses, including those which may cause drowsiness or dizziness; and
3. Illegal substances.

"Prescription drugs" means drugs which are used in the course of medical treatment and have been prescribed and authorized for use by a licensed medical practitioner/physician or dentist, other than marijuana (cannabis) and marijuana-related substances.

"Smoking" means the burning of a cigarette, cigar, pipe or other similar device that contains in whole or in part, cannabis or hemp, in addition to tobacco.

"Electronic nicotine delivery system" for purposes of this policy means an electronic device used in the delivery of nicotine or other substances to a person inhaling from the device, and includes, but is not limited to, an electronic cigarette, electronic cigar, electronic cigarillo, electronic pipe or electronic hookah and any related device and any cartridge or other component of such device, including, but not limited to, electronic cigarette liquid.

"Vapor product" means any product that employs a heating element, power source, electronic circuit or other electronic, chemical, or mechanical means to produce a vapor that may or may not include nicotine and is inhaled by the product's user.

"Under the influence" means any noticeable use, any detectable level of drugs or alcohol in the employee's blood or urine or any noticeable or perceptible impairment of the employee's mental or physical faculties.

"Criminal drug statute" means any criminal statute involving the manufacture, distribution, dispensing, use, or possession of any controlled substance.

I. Prohibited Behavior

To help maintain a drug-free school, community, and workplace, the following conduct is strictly prohibited of all District employees and volunteers. An employee who violates this policy may be required to successfully complete an appropriate rehabilitation program,

may not be renewed or his/her employment may be suspended or terminated, at the discretion of the Board.

- A. Reporting to work or the workplace under the influence of alcohol, illegal and/or controlled substances including marijuana (cannabis) and anabolic steroids;
- B. Manufacturing, selling, delivering, soliciting, consuming, using, possessing, or transmitting alcohol in any amount or in any manner on District property or a District workplace at any time while students are under the supervision of the District, or when involved as an employee in a District activity on or off school district property;
- C. Unlawfully manufacturing, distributing, dispensing, possessing, or using a controlled substance in a District workplace;
- D. Using the workplace, District property or the staff member's position within the District to make or traffic alcohol, illegal and/or controlled substances, including marijuana (cannabis) and anabolic steroids;
- E. Using, possessing or transmitting illegal and/or controlled substances, including marijuana (cannabis) and anabolic steroids in a manner that is illegal or which impairs job performance or poses a hazard to the safety and welfare of the employee, the public, the students, or other employees; and
- F. Smoking or other use of tobacco products on school property during regular school hours, on transportation provided by the Board of Education, or during the course of any trip sponsored by the Board or under the supervision of the Board or its authorized agent.

II. Use of Prescription Drugs

- A. Employees are permitted to use prescription drugs on school property, or during the conduct of Board business, that have been prescribed by a licensed medical practitioner. Such drugs shall be used only as prescribed. In addition, employees shall not possess prescription drugs for the purpose of sale or distribution.
- B. However, the Board, in compliance with C.G.S. 21a-408a through 408q, prohibits the palliative use of marijuana on school property, at a school-sponsored event, or during the conduct of Board business. Employees are prohibited from being under the influence of intoxicating substances, including marijuana used for palliative purposes, during the work day.

III. Smoking

- A. The Board prohibits smoking, including smoking using an electronic nicotine delivery system (e.g., e-cigarettes), and the use of tobacco products on school property or at any school-sponsored activity. This ban applies to any area of the workplace and outside within 25 feet of a doorway, operable window or air intake vent.
- B. The workplace smoking ban also applies to cannabis, hemp, and e-cigarette use, involving cannabis.

- C. Smoking, including cannabis, will be permitted in a situation in which a classroom is used during a smoking or e-cigarette demonstration that is part of a medical or scientific experiment or lesson.
- D. The District will not make accommodations for an employee or be required to allow an employee to perform his/her duties while under the influence of cannabis or allow the employee to possess, use or otherwise consume cannabis while performing his/her employment duties.

IV. Notification Requirements

- A. Any staff member who is taking prescribed or over-the-counter medications will be responsible for consulting the prescribing physician and/or pharmacist to ascertain whether the medication may interfere with the safe performance of his/her job. If the use of a medication could compromise the safety of the staff member, other staff members, students or the public, it is the staff member's responsibility to use appropriate personnel procedures (e.g., use leave, request change of duty, or notify his/her supervisor of potential side effects) to avoid unsafe workplace practices. If a staff member notifies his/her supervisor that the use of medication could compromise the safe performance of his/her job, the supervisor, in conjunction with his/her superior, will determine whether the staff member can remain at work and whether any work restrictions will be necessary.
- B. As a condition of employment, each employee will notify his or her supervisor of a conviction under any criminal drug statute. Such notification will be provided no later than five (5) days after such conviction. The District will inform the federal granting agency within ten (10) days of such conviction, regardless of the source of the information.
- C. District employees are directed to report any suspected violation of this policy to an administrator or directly to the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee. The Superintendent or designee will investigate the allegation and meet with the alleged violator.
- D. All employees will be notified of this policy on a yearly basis and instructed to recognize that compliance is mandated.
- E. This policy shall be made known to prospective employees prior to employment.

V. Disciplinary Action Upon Violation of Policy

- A. An employee who violates this policy may be subject to disciplinary action, consistent with applicable state and federal laws, up to and including termination. Enrollment and successful completion of an appropriate drug-or alcohol-abuse, employee-assistance rehabilitation program may be required at the discretion of the administration, at the employee's expense. Nothing in this policy will be construed to guarantee reinstatement of any employee who violates this policy, nor does the District incur any financial obligation for treatment or rehabilitation required as a condition of eligibility for reinstatement.
- B. Disciplinary action will include, at a minimum, a letter of reprimand and may include, but is not limited to suspension or termination from employment.

- C. The Board shall take disciplinary action with respect to an employee convicted of a drug offense in the workplace within thirty (30) days after receiving notice of the conviction.
- D. Should District employees be engaged in the performance of work under a federal contract or grant, or under a State contract or grant of \$5,000 or more, the Superintendent shall notify the appropriate State or Federal agency from which the District receives contract or grant monies of the employee's conviction within ten (10) days after receiving notice of the conviction.
- E. The District may notify law enforcement agencies regarding a staff member's District deems appropriate.

VI. Employee Assistance

- A. In order to make employees aware of dangers of drug and alcohol abuse, and to provide an employee with the opportunity for rehabilitation in overcoming addiction to, dependence upon or other problem with alcohol or drugs, the District will:
 - A. provide each employee with a copy of this District Drug- and Alcohol-Free Workplace policy;
- B. Post notice of the Drug- and Alcohol-Free Workplace policy in a place where other information for employees is posted;
- C. Make available materials from local, state, and national anti-drug and alcohol-abuse organizations;
- D. Enlist the aid of community and state agencies with drug and alcohol informational and rehabilitation programs to provide information to District employees;
- E. Provide information about benefits available under the Board's group medical plan for treatment;
- F. Establish a drug-free awareness program to inform employees about:
 - the dangers of drug abuse in the workplace,
 - available drug and alcohol counseling, rehabilitation, re-entry, and any employee assistance programs, and
 - the penalties that the District may impose upon employees for violations of this policy.

CBD Products *(optional)*

Employees are prohibited from possessing or using any product with cannabidiol (CBD), whether derived from hemp or cannabis, regardless of the amount of THC in the product or to the extent to which it is legal or illegal under state law.

Legal Reference:

Drug-Free Workplace Act. 102 Stat. 4305-4308
Drug-Free Schools and Community Act, P.L. 99-570, as amended by P.L. 101-226 (1991)
21 U.S.C. 812, Controlled Substances Act, I through V, 202.
21 C.F.R. 1300.11 through 1300.15 regulation
54 Fed. Reg. 4946 (1989)

Connecticut General Statutes

19a-342 Smoking prohibited in certain places

P.A. 21-1 (June Spec. Session) An Act Concerning Responsible and Equitable Regulation of Adult-Use Cannabis Controlled Substances Act, 21 U.S.C. §812; 21 C.F.R. 1308.11-1308.15

Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988, 41 U.S.C. §701 et. seq.

Safe and Drug-Free School and Communities Act of 1994, 20 U.S.C. §7101-71187 (as amended by Title IV - 21st Century Schools)

Drug-Free Workplace Act, 30 ILCS 580/1 et. seq.

Drug-Free Workplace Requirements for Federal Grant and Recipients 41 U.S.C. 8103

Policy Adopted: October 2018

Proposed Revision: February 2022

Personnel - Certified and Non-Certified

R4118.231/4218.231 –Staff Use and Possession of Smoking Products, Tobacco Products, Drugs and Alcohol

Employees violating the Board of Education's (Board) alcohol, drug and tobacco policy may be subject to disciplinary action as indicated below.

Alcohol and Drugs

In accordance with state and federal law, the Board is required to provide written explanation of the consequences of violating the Board's policy which prohibits the unlawful manufacture, possession, use, dispensing, or distribution of illicit, controlled drugs and alcohol on school premises or as part of any school activities.

"Controlled drugs" are those drugs which contain any quantity of a substance which has been designated as subject to federal narcotic laws, or which has been designated as a depressant or stimulant drug pursuant to federal food and drug laws, or which has been designated by the public health council and Commissioner of Consumer Protection pursuant to Section 19-451 as having a stimulant, depressant, or hallucinogenic effect upon the higher functions of the central nervous system and as having a tendency to promote abuse or psychological or physiological dependence - or both. Controlled drugs are classifiable as amphetamine-type, barbiturate-type, cannabis-type, cocaine-type, hallucinogenic, morphine-type, and other stimulant and depressant drugs. Specifically excluded from controlled drugs are alcohol, nicotine and caffeine.

The Superintendent, with necessary Board assistance and support, will provide a drug-free workplace in accordance with state and federal regulations.

The District will establish a drug-free awareness program to inform employees about the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse in the workplace; the District's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace; any available drug and alcohol counseling, rehabilitation and employee assistance programs; and penalties which may be imposed on employees for drug or alcohol abuse violations occurring in the workplace.

Employees Funded by Federal Grant

Any employee who is funded by a federal grant, in an amount greater than \$25,000, is required to be given a copy of this policy and regulation concerning a drug-free workplace.

All employees will be notified that, as a condition of employment under the grant, the employee must abide by the terms of the statement and will notify the District of any criminal drug statute conviction for a violation occurring in the workplace no later than five days after such conviction.

If an employee who worked on a federal grant is convicted, the federal agency will be notified within ten (10) days after the employer receives notice from an employee of such conviction.

One of the following actions will be taken within thirty (30) days of receiving notice with respect to any employee who is so convicted:

1. Take appropriate personnel action against such an employee, up to and including termination;
2. Require such employee to participate satisfactorily in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved for such purposes by federal, state or local health law enforcement, or other appropriate agency.

The Windsor Locks School District shall make a good faith effort to continue to maintain a drug-free and alcohol-free workplace through implementation of this regulation.

Disciplinary Action for Violation of Alcohol and Drug Policy

These procedures should be followed if an employee of the District is found to have violated the alcohol and drug policy.

~~1. Employees observed selling, possessing, or transferring of controlled drugs and alcohol:~~

~~A. Employees will be reported to the building principal immediately;~~

~~B. The Superintendent will become responsible for holding any suspicious materials and will issue a signed receipt for them;~~

~~C. The police will be notified and the material turned over to them for analysis and disposition in exchange for a written receipt. Any further action will be left to the police. No employee shall act in a law enforcement capacity.~~

~~D. Consistent with local, state and federal law, employees found to be in possession of, using or distributing illicit drugs or alcohol on school premises may be subject to termination of employment and prosecution.~~

~~E. Information about drug and alcohol counseling and rehabilitation and re-entry programs will be made available to employees and the completion of an appropriate rehabilitation program will be required as a condition of continued employment.~~

A. An employee who violates this policy may be subject to disciplinary action, consistent with applicable state and federal laws, up to and including termination. Enrollment and successful completion of an appropriate drug-or alcohol-abuse, employee-assistance rehabilitation program may be required at the discretion of the administration, at the employee's expense. Nothing in this policy will be construed to guarantee reinstatement of any employee who violates this policy, nor does the District incur any financial obligation for treatment or rehabilitation required as a condition of eligibility for reinstatement.

- B. Disciplinary action will include, at a minimum, a letter of reprimand and may include, but is not limited to suspension or termination from employment.
- C. The Board shall take disciplinary action with respect to an employee convicted of a drug offense in the workplace within thirty (30) days after receiving notice of the conviction.
- D. Should District employees be engaged in the performance of work under a federal contract or grant, or under a State contract or grant of \$5,000 or more, the Superintendent shall notify the appropriate State or Federal agency from which the District receives contract or grant monies of the employee's conviction within ten (10) days after receiving notice of the conviction.
- E. The District may notify law enforcement agencies regarding a staff member's District deems appropriate.

2. Employees suspected to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

- A. Employees shall be taken to the nurse and shall be treated as a person who is ill. The Superintendent shall be notified by the principal. In case of emergency or if there is a clear and present danger to an employee's health, he/she will be transferred immediately to the hospital.
- B. Consistent with local, state and federal law, employees found to be in possession of, using or distributing illicit drugs or alcohol on school premises may be subject to termination of employment and prosecution.
- C. Information about drug and alcohol counseling and rehabilitation and re-entry programs will be made available to employees and the completion of an appropriate rehabilitation program will be required as a condition of continued employment.

3. Discovery of Controlled Drugs and Alcohol by an employee

- A. An employee finding such material will deliver it to the principal.
- B. The principal will investigate the matter and notify the Superintendent of the incident.
- C. If the material is found to be or is suspected of being a controlled drug, the building principal will turn over the material to the police for analysis in exchange for a written receipt.

- 4. The Superintendent will designate one staff member, who handles all disciplinary matters regarding personnel, to review, monitor and recommend to the Superintendent disciplinary action.

Sanctions for Violation of Smoking Policy

- 1. **First Offense.** Upon the first violation, an employee found to be smoking in the school building or on the school grounds during regular school hours will be warned orally that he/she is violating the school smoking ban policy and that further violation will lead to a written warning and further disciplinary action.

2. Second Offense. Employees who are found to violate the policy a second time will receive a written warning. A copy of this written warning will be placed in the employee's personnel file.

3. Third Offense. Upon the third violation, an employee will receive a second written warning. A copy of this written warning will be the employee's personnel file.

4. Fourth Offense. If the employee violates the smoking policy a fourth time, the employee will be referred to the Superintendent for further disciplinary action.

Legal Reference:

Drug-Free Workplace Act. 102 Stat. 4305-4308.

Drug-Free Schools and Community Act, P.L. 99-570, as amended
by P.L. 101-226 (1991)

21 U.S.C. 812, Controlled Substances Act, I through V, 202.

21 C.F.R. 1308.11 through 1308.15 regulation.

54 Fed. Reg. 4946 (1989)

Connecticut General Statutes

19a-342 Smoking prohibited in certain places.

Regulation approved: October 2018

Students

5131.6 - Alcohol Use, Drugs, and Tobacco (including Performance Enhancing Substances)

Pursuant to the goal of the Board of Education (Board) to maintain a drug, tobacco and alcohol-free school district, schools shall take positive action through education, counseling, parental involvement, and medical and police referral in handling incidents in the schools involving possession, sale, and/or use of behavior affecting substances. These substances shall include but not be limited to alcohol and controlled substances as defined in the Penal Code of the State of Connecticut.

Alcohol, tobacco, nicotine (including electronic nicotine delivery systems), stimulants, street drugs, including but not limited to marijuana, heroin and cocaine; anabolic steroids, hormones and analogues, diuretics and other performance enhancing substances; including supplements and Creatine, are addressed by this policy and accompanying administrative regulations.

Definitions

Drugs are defined as any substance other than food or water that is intended to be taken or administered (ingested, injected, applied, implanted, inhaled, etc.) for the purpose of altering, sustaining, or controlling the recipient's physical, mental, or emotional state. Drugs may include, but not be limited to, alcoholic beverages; controlled substances such as marijuana, hallucinogens, cocaine, barbiturates, amphetamines, narcotics; and non-authorized prescription drugs.

Controlled substances, for purposes of this policy shall include all controlled substances prohibited by federal and state law, look-alike drugs, alcoholic beverages, anabolic steroids, drug paraphernalia, any volatile solvents or inhalants, such as but not limited to glue and aerosol products, and prescription or patent drugs, except those for which permission for use in school has been granted pursuant to Board policy.

Under the influence, for the purposes of this policy shall include and consumption or ingestion of controlled substances by a student.

Electronic Nicotine Delivery System means an electronic device that may be used to simulate smoking in the delivery of nicotine or other substance to a person inhaling from the device, and includes, but is not limited to, an electronic cigarette, electronic cigar, electronic cigarillo, electronic pipe or electronic hookah and any related device and any cartridge or other component of such device.

Liquid nicotine container means a container that holds a liquid substance containing nicotine that is sold, marketed, or intended for use in an electronic nicotine delivery system or vapor product, except "liquid nicotine container" does not include such a container that is prefilled and sealed by the manufacturer and not intended to be opened by the consumer.

Vapor product means any product that employs a heating element, power source, electronic circuit or other electronic, chemical or mechanical means, regardless of shape or size, to produce a vapor that may or may not include nicotine that is inhaled by the user of such product.

Privacy Rights

Personal privacy rights of students shall be protected as provided by law. School properties may be inspected by school authorities to maintain health and safety. Searches to locate drugs, narcotics, liquor, weapons, poisons, and missing properties are matters relating to health and safety and may be regarded as reasonable grounds for searches by school personnel. Privileged communication between a certified or paraprofessional employee and a student concerning drug abuse shall remain confidential except in cases where the employee is obtaining physical evidence of a controlled substance, and/or where there is an immediate threat to, or where students' health, safety, and welfare may be jeopardized.

Illegal Activities

Use, possession, sale or distribution of drugs, including prescription drugs, drug paraphernalia and/or alcoholic beverages in violation of state law or Board of Education policy is prohibited at any time on school premises or at any school-sponsored activity. If a student is under the influence of a drug or alcohol, or engaged in the illegal activity of possessing or selling drugs and/or alcohol, the police will be notified, his/her parent(s)/guardian will be contacted, he/she will be suspended from school, referred to a Student Support Team, and considered for expulsion. In cases of the illegal activity of possessing or selling drugs or alcohol, students will be referred to the appropriate law enforcement authorities. If a student is arrested and is awaiting trial for possession of, or possession of with intent to sell drugs in or on school property or at a school-sponsored event, the student will not be allowed to attend school without the permission of the Superintendent, per the guidelines set forth in Policy #5114.

Notification of Policy

Annually, students will be notified through the student handbook, or through other means, of disciplinary sanctions for violation of this policy.

Principals shall include statements, appropriate to student maturity, in school handbooks and on District/school websites to the effect that:

1. the unlawful manufacture, distribution, sale, dispensing, possession or use of controlled substances, other illegal drugs, performance-enhancing substances, alcohol or tobacco is prohibited in school, on school grounds, on school transportation and at school sponsored activities;
2. compliance with the standards of conduct stated in the handbook is mandatory;
3. a violation of its provisions will subject students to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion and referral for prosecution: and
4. CIAC controlled activities at the high school and middle school levels sponsored by the District/school are included in this policy and accompanying administrative regulations.
5. CIAC may impose sanctions beyond those applied by the District for the use of performance-enhancing substances, as defined in this policy, by athletes.

Disciplinary Action

Students who violate this policy will be subject to disciplinary action which includes, but is not limited to, suspension or expulsion, and/or a program recommended by the Student Support Team. Student athletes who violate this policy, participating in CIAC-controlled activities shall also be declared ineligible for such activities in accordance with CIAC policy and regulation. Any disciplinary actions imposed will ensure that similar violations will be treated consistently. The Superintendent shall propose and the Board of Education shall approve procedures and regulations to ensure that any student violating this policy is subjected to disciplinary action, and that any disciplinary actions imposed for similar violations are treated consistently.

The following guidelines for reporting alleged violations are to be followed:

1. If an employee suspects student possession, use, abuse, distribution or sale of controlled substances, other illegal drugs, performance-enhancing drugs, alcohol, tobacco/tobacco products, or electronic nicotine delivery systems, the employee shall refer the matter to the Principal or his/her designee. The Principal or designee will notify the student's parent/guardian, recommend a specific assessment, as appropriate, and contact law enforcement personnel as appropriate.
2. If an employee obtains physical evidence of a controlled substance, **including cannabis**, other illegal drug, drug paraphernalia, performance-enhancing drugs, alcohol, tobacco products, tobacco paraphernalia, or electronic nicotine delivery systems from a student in school, on school grounds, on school provided transportation or at a school sponsored event, the employee shall turn the student and the controlled substance over to the school principal or designee. The Principal will notify the student's parent/guardian, recommend a specified assessment as appropriate, notify law enforcement personnel and shall surrender possession of the controlled substance to the proper authorities within the time period required by state law.
3. **Disciplinary action taken by District officials against a student for the use, sale, or possession of marijuana (cannabis) on school premises or at any District/school sponsored activity, on or after January 1, 2022, shall not result in any discipline, punishment, or sanction greater than that which a student would face for the use, sale, or possession of alcohol. (C.G.S. 10-221(d), as amended by P.A. 21-1, June Special Session, Section 19)**

Drug-Free Awareness Program

The Superintendent shall assure that the school District provides a drug-free awareness program for students including the following topics:

- health and safety-related dangers of drug abuse;
- review of the Board of Education's policy of maintaining drug-free schools;
- notification of the availability of drug counseling and rehabilitation programs; and
- official penalties for drug abuse violations in schools.

Drugs and Alcohol

It is the policy of the Board to prevent and prohibit the use (except as duly authorized through the

school nurse), possession, distribution or sale of any drug, drug paraphernalia, or alcohol by any student at any time on school property, at school-sponsored events or on school-provided transportation. The District provides (1) a supportive environment for recovering chemically dependent students during and/or after their involvement in a treatment program for chemical dependency; and will provide (2) assistance to those students who are affected by drug/alcohol possession or use by others. Any student in District schools found to be using, selling, distributing, in possession of or under the influence of intoxicants, mood altering drugs or substances, or look-alike drugs, or in possession of any related drug paraphernalia during a school session, on school premises, or anywhere at a school-sponsored activity or trip, on school- provided transportation, or otherwise off school grounds when such student's conduct violates the substance abuse policy and is seriously disruptive of the educational process shall be subject to consequences as stated in the student handbook.

A breath alcohol tester is approved for use at events/activities such as dances and proms at the middle school and high school levels where, in the judgment of the school administrator, there exists reasonable suspicion that a student has consumed an alcoholic beverage and then, only under the following circumstances:

- The student denies to an administrator that he/she has consumed alcoholic beverages and wishes to establish his/her innocence. Should the student register a positive reading on the breath alcohol tester, consequences will be administered as outlined in the discipline/behavior regulations in the Code of Conduct.
- The student denies to an administrator that he/she has consumed alcoholic beverages and elects not to utilize the breath alcohol tester to establish his/her innocence. The judgment of the administrator will then be utilized to determine if the student has consumed an alcoholic beverage. In this instance, consequences will be administered as outlined in the discipline/behavior regulations in the Code of Conduct.

Inhalant Abuse

In addition to the prohibitions pertaining to alcohol, drugs and tobacco contained in this policy, no student shall inhale, ingest, apply, use or possess an abusable glue, aerosol paint or substance containing a volatile chemical with intent to inhale, ingest, apply or use any of these in a manner:

1. Contrary to directions for use, cautions or warnings appearing on a label of a container of the glue, paint aerosol or substance; and
2. Designed to affect the central nervous system, create or induce a condition of intoxication, hallucination or elation, or change, distort, or disturb the person's eyesight, thinking process, balance or coordination.

For purposes of this policy, inhalants are defined as follows, but not limited to:

Nitrous Oxide — Laughing Gas, Whippets, CO₂ Cartridge
Amyl Nitrite — “Locker Room,” “Rush,” “Poppers,” “Snappers”
Butyl Nitrite — “Bullet,” “Climax”
Chlorohydrocarbons — Aerosol Paint Cans, Cleaning Fluids
Hydrocarbons — Aerosol Propellants, Gasoline, Glue, Butane

Further, no student, 18 years of age or older, shall intentionally, knowingly or recklessly deliver

or sell potentially abusable inhalant materials as listed above to a minor student.

No student shall intentionally use or possess with intent to use inhalant paraphernalia to inhale, ingest, or otherwise introduce into the body an abusable glue, aerosol paint or substance or other substance that contains a volatile chemical.

Inhalant Abuse (continued)

Any student in the District schools found to be in possession of, using, distributing, or selling potentially abusable inhalant materials shall be subject to disciplinary action as outlined in this policy, up to and including suspension and a recommendation for expulsion. Violators of this policy may also be required to complete an appropriate rehabilitation program. The Superintendent shall propose and the Board of Education shall approve procedures and regulations to ensure that any student violating this policy is subjected to disciplinary action, and that any disciplinary actions imposed for similar violations are treated consistently.

The Board of Education shall incorporate into the curriculum at all levels education pertaining to potential inhalant abuse which is appropriate for students given their age, maturity, and grade level. Inhalant abuse educational programs/information for parents/guardians will be offered in a manner convenient to parents/guardians.

Performance-Enhancing Drugs (including food supplement)

In addition to the prohibition pertaining to alcohol, drugs, tobacco and inhalants, the Board of Education prohibits the use, possession, distribution or sale of performance-enhancing drugs, including anabolic steroids and food supplements, including Creatine, by students involved in school-related athletics or any co-curricular or extracurricular school activity/program, other than use for a valid medical purpose as documented by a physician. Bodybuilding and enhancement of athletic ability and performance are not considered valid medical purposes.

School personnel and coaches will not dispense any drugs, medication or food supplements except as in compliance with Connecticut State law, District policy and as prescribed by a student's physician, dentist, physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse.

Students shall be made aware of the dangers of steroid abuse and that such abuse, unauthorized possession, purchase, or sale will subject them to disciplinary action and CIAC sanctions.

Students who violate this policy will be subject to disciplinary action. The Superintendent shall propose, and the Board of Education shall approve, procedures and regulations to ensure that any student violating this section is subjected to disciplinary action, and that any disciplinary actions imposed for similar violations are treated consistently.

It is the expectation of the Board that District schools, as members of the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Association (CIAC), require all athletes playing in CIAC-controlled sports to be chemical free.

There shall be no smoking or any other unauthorized use or possession of tobacco, tobacco products, including chewing tobacco or tobacco paraphernalia, and electronic nicotine delivery systems or vapor products by students in any school building or school vehicle at any time or on any school grounds during the school day, or at any time when the student is subject to the supervision of designated school personnel. Such as when the student is at any school function, extracurricular event, field trip, or school related activity such as a work-study program. An ongoing program of student support and counseling will be offered to provide support for students who wish to break the smoking habit.

Tobacco includes, but is not limited to cigarettes, snuff, smoking tobacco, smokeless tobacco, nicotine, nicotine delivery systems or vapor product, chemicals, or devices that produce the same flavor or physical effect of nicotine substances; and any other tobacco or nicotine innovations.

Students who violate this policy will be subject to disciplinary action. The Superintendent shall propose and the Board of Education shall approve procedures and regulations to ensure that any student violating this policy is subjected to disciplinary action, and that any disciplinary actions imposed for similar actions are treated consistently.

Medical Marijuana

The conditions which follow are applicable to a district student, eighteen years of age or older, who holds a certificate authorizing the palliative use of marijuana issued by the Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection (DCP) for the medical use of marijuana as set out in P.A. 12-55, "An Act Concerning the Palliative Use of Marijuana."

The District will not refuse to enroll a student or otherwise penalize a student for being a medical marijuana certificate holder unless failure to do so would cause the school to lose a monetary or licensing benefit under federal law or regulations.

A student medical marijuana certificate holder is subject to, without bias, the same code of conduct and disciplinary standards applicable to all students attending District schools.

A student medical marijuana certificate holder shall not:

- Undertake any task under the influence of marijuana that would constitute negligence;
- Possess or engage in the medical use of marijuana
 - On a school bus,
 - On the grounds of any preschool, elementary or secondary school,
 - Smoke marijuana on any form of public transportation or in any public place;
- Operate, navigate, or be in actual physical control of any motor vehicle while under the influence of marijuana, except that a qualifying certified marijuana user for medical purposes shall not be considered to be under the influence of marijuana solely because of the presence of metabolites or components of marijuana that appear in insufficient concentration to cause impairment.
- Use marijuana in any manner not authorized by P.A. 12-55; or
- Offer to give, sell, or dispense medical marijuana to another student or other individual on or off school property, in school-provided vehicles, at school events or when functioning as a representative of the school.

If District officials have reasonable belief that a student may be under the influence, in possession of, or distributing medical marijuana, in a manner not authorized by the medical marijuana statute, law enforcement authorities will be informed.

A student who violates any portion of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action and applicable criminal prosecution.

- (cf. 5114 – Suspension/Expulsion)
- (cf. 5131 – Conduct)
- (cf. 5131.61 – Inhalant Abuse)
- (cf. 5131.62 – Steroid Use)
- (cf. 5131.612 – Surrender of Physical Evidence Obtained from Students)
- (cf. 5131.8 – Out of School Grounds Misconduct)
- (cf. 5131.92 – Corporal Punishment)
- (cf. 5144 – Discipline/Punishment)
- (cf. 5145.12 – Search and Seizure)
- (cf. 5145.121 – Vehicle Searches on School Grounds)
- (cf. 5145.122 – Use of Dogs to Search School Property)
- (cf. 5145.124 – Breathalyzer Testing)
- (cf. 5145.125 – Drug Testing-Extracurricular Activities)
- (cf. 6164.11 – Drugs, Alcohol, Tobacco)

- Legal Reference:
- Connecticut General Statutes
 - 1-21b Smoking prohibited in certain places
 - 10-19 Teaching about alcohol, nicotine or tobacco, drugs and acquired immune deficiency syndrome. Training of personnel.
 - 10-154a Professional communications between teacher or nurse and student. Surrender or physical evidence obtained from students.
 - 10-220b Policy statement on drugs
 - 10-221(d) Boards of Education to prescribe rules, policies and procedures re sale or possession of alcohol or controlled drugs
 - 10-221(d) Boards of Education to prescribe rules, policies and procedures re sale or possession of alcohol or controlled drugs. (as amended by P.A. 21-1, June Special Session, Section 19)**
 - 21a-240 Definitions dependency producing drugs.
 - 21a -240(8) Definitions “Controlled Drugs,” dependency producing drugs
 - 21a-240(9) Definitions “controlled substance”
 - 21a-243 Regulation re schedules of controlled substances.
 - 53-198 Smoking in motor buses, railroad cars and school buses
 - P.A. 11-73 An Act Regulating the Sale and Possession of Synthetic Marijuana and Salvia Divinorum
 - P.A. 12-55 An Act Concerning the Palliative Use of Marijuana
 - P.A. 14-76 An Act Concerning the Governor’s Recommendations Regarding Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems and Youth Smoking Prevention

P.A. 15-206 An Act Regulating Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems and Vapor Products

Federal Regulation 34 CFR Part 85 Drug-free Schools & Communities Act
20 U.S.C. Section 7181 et. seq., No Child Left Behind Act

Synthetic Drug Abuse Prevention Act of 2012. (part of s.3187, the Food and Drug Administration Safety and Innovation Act)

New Jersey v. T.L.O., 469 U.S. 325 (1985)

Veronia School District 47J v. Acton, 515 U.S. 646

(1995) *Board of Education of Independent School District No 92 of Pottawatomie County v. Earls* 01-332 U.S. (2002)

Policy Adopted: March 28, 2013
Policy Revised: March 24, 2016, April 8, 2021
Proposed Revision: February 2022

**Administrative Guidelines RE: Alcohol/Drugs
Situational/Category Guidelines and Procedures**

	SITUATIONAL CATEGORY	IMMEDIATE ACTION	INVESTIGATION	NOTIFICATION OF PARENTS	NOTIFICATION OF POLICE/JUVENILE AUTHORITIES	DISCIPLINE/REHABILITATION
1.	A student is suspected of possible alcohol/drug use. There is no violation or physical evidence.	The student is informed of the serious consequences of substance abuse, and of available help. The student is encouraged to seek assistance.	Staff member must contact an administrator for assistance.	Dependent on investigation.	Not applicable.	None. Referral to student support personnel.
2.	A student contacts a staff member in regard to the alcohol/drug use by another student.	The professional employee will provide the administrator of the building of the person assigned with the information immediately. The administrator of the building or the person assigned will contact the student services group.	Limited to the staff member, although the counselor, nurse or administrator may be contacted for assistance.	Dependent upon circumstances.	Not applicable.	None. Possible referral to student support personnel.
3.	A student volunteers information about personal alcohol/drug use. A student seeks help regarding alcohol/drug use.	The student is informed of services available and encouraged to seek assistance	Staff member may request the assistance of student support personnel, the nurse and/or administrator.	Only with consent of student unless there is a clear and imminent danger or other compelling reason to notify the parents.	Not applicable.	None. Referral to student support personnel.
4.	The student has an alcohol/drug related emergency.	The nurse and other appropriate medical personnel will be summoned immediately.	Interviews will be conducted with the student and others, as appropriate. Confiscation of substance. The investigation may also include a search of the student, his locker and other possessions, including the student's vehicle.	Yes, immediate notification of parents.	At the discretion of the administration and subject to applicable legislation.	See appropriate situational category. Referral to student support personnel and appropriate social service agency.

Administrative Guidelines RE: Alcohol/Drugs
Situational/Category Guidelines and Procedures

	SITUATIONAL CATEGORY	IMMEDIATE ACTION	INVESTIGATION	NOTIFICATION OF PARENTS	NOTIFICATION OF POLICE/JUVENILE AUTHORITIES	DISCIPLINE/REHABILITATION
5.	The student possesses drug-related paraphernalia. No evidence of use.	Paraphernalia is confiscated by administration. Staff member writes a report of the incident.	Interviews will be conducted with the student and others, as appropriate. Confiscation of substance. The investigation may also include a search of the student, his locker and other possessions, including the student's vehicle.	Yes, parent conference arranged as soon as possible.	At the discretion of the administration and subject to applicable legislation.	Suspension from school for five to ten days. Mandatory participation in a school-sponsored abuse prevention program. Mandatory referral for assessment by a licensed drug and alcohol facility. Failure to participate in an assessment may result in further disciplinary action upon the student's return to school. Possible formal hearing for exclusion from school.
6.	A student possesses, uses, or is under the influence of alcohol/drugs, first offense, cooperative behavior.	Administration is notified immediately. Staff member writes a report of the incident. Superintendent/designee contacted.	Interviews will be conducted with the student and others, as appropriate. Confiscation of substance. The investigation may also include a search of the student, his locker and other possessions, including the student's vehicle.	Yes, parent is requested to come to the administrator's office immediately.	Yes.	Suspension from school for five to ten days. Mandatory participation in a school-sponsored abuse prevention program. Mandatory referral for assessment by a licensed drug and alcohol facility. Failure to participate in an assessment any result in further disciplinary action upon the student's return to school. Possible formal hearing for exclusion from school.

Students

Administering Medication

Opioid Overdose Prevention (Emergency Administration of Naloxone)

The Board of Education (Board) recognizes that many factors, including the use and misuse of prescription painkillers, can lead to the dependence on and addiction to opioids, and that such dependence and addiction can lead to overdose and death among the general public, including District students and staff. The Board wants to minimize these deaths by the use of opioid overdose prevention measures.

Definitions

Drug overdose means an acute medical condition, including, but not limited to, severe physical illness, coma, mania, hysteria or death, which is the result of consumption or use of one or more controlled substances causing an adverse reaction. The signs of opioid overdose include unresponsiveness; nonconsciousness; shallow breathing with rate less than 10 breaths per minute or not breathing at all; blue or gray face, especially fingernails and lips; and loud, uneven snoring or gurgling noises.

Naloxone (Narcan) means a medication that can reverse an overdose caused by an opioid drug. As a narcotic antagonist, Naloxone displaces opiates from receptor sites in the brain and reverses respiratory depression that usually is the cause of overdose deaths.

Opioid means illegal drugs such as heroin, as well as prescription medications used to treat pain such as morphine, codeine, methadone, oxycodone (OxyContin, Percodan, Percocet), hydrocodone (Vicodin), fentanyl, hydromorphone (Dilaudid), and buprenorphine.

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or his/her designee, in consultation with the school nurse supervisor and the District Medical Advisor shall establish appropriate internal procedures for the acquisition, stocking and administration of Naloxone (Narcan) and related emergency response procedures pursuant to this policy.

The District Medical Advisor shall be the prescribing and supervising medical professional for the District's stocking and use of Naloxone (Narcan). The Superintendent or his/her designee shall obtain a standing order from the District Medical Advisor for the administration of Naloxone (Narcan).

The standing order shall be maintained in the Superintendent's office and copies of the standing order shall be kept in each location where Naloxone is stored.

The school nurse shall be responsible for building-level administration and management of Naloxone and management of Naloxone stocks. Each school nurse and any other individual(s) authorized by the Superintendent shall be trained in the administration of Naloxone.

Acquisition, Storage and Disposal

Naloxone shall be safely stored in the school nurse's office or other location designated by the school nurse in accordance with the drug manufacturer's instructions.

The school nurse shall obtain sufficient supplies of Naloxone pursuant to the standing order in the same manner as other medical supplies acquired for the school health program. The school nurse or designee shall regularly inventory and refresh Naloxone stocks, and maintain records thereof. In accordance with internal procedures, manufacturer's recommendations and any applicable Department of Public Health guidelines.

(cf. [5141](#) - Administering Medications)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

[10-212](#) School nurses and nurse practitioners. Administration of medications by parents or guardians on school grounds. Criminal history; records check.

[10-212a](#) Administration of medications in schools. (as amended by PA 99-2, and June Special Session and PA 03-211, PA 04-181, PA 07-241, PA 07-252, PA 09-155, PA 12-198, PA 14-176 and PA 15-215)

[17a-714](#) Immunity for prescribing, dispensing or administering an opioid antagonist to treat or prevent a drug overdose.

[21a-279\(g\)](#)Penalty for illegal possession. Alternate sentences. Immunity.

[52-557b](#) Immunity from liability for emergency medical assistance first aid or medication by injection. School personnel not required to administer or render. (as amended by PA 05-144, An Act Concerning the Emergency Use of Cartridge Injectors)

Connecticut Regulations of State Agencies [10-212a-1](#) through [10-212a-10](#), inclusive, as amended.

PA 15-198: An Act Concerning Substance Abuse and Opioid Overdose Prevention

PA 16-43: An Act Concerning Opioids and Access to Overdose Reversal Drugs

Policy Adopted:

Instruction

FAFSA Completion Program

The Board of Education (Board) recognizes that college, for many students, continues to be an important pathway that helps to provide students with the necessary skills for work and for lifelong learning. In addition, research has indicated the students who complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) are more likely to attend college with financial aid.

Many Connecticut students, eligible for college, fail to complete the FAFSA each year, resulting in the loss of funds that could help support their postsecondary education.

The Board acknowledges that Connecticut has, for eligible school districts, implemented a FAFSA Completion Challenge (Challenge). This Challenge is based on the premise that FAFSA completion is strongly associated with postsecondary enrollment and outcomes. Students who complete the FAFSA, in greater numbers, attend college directly from high school in comparison to non-completers.

Note: *The statewide FAFSA Challenge is a partnership between the State Department of Education (SDE) and the Connecticut College and Career Readiness Alliance. This partnership aims to strengthen postsecondary access and enrollment by raising FAFSA completion rates among high school seniors.*

Therefore, the Board, through this policy, sets as a goal a District initiative to improve the completion rates for FAFSA among grade 12 students or students in District adult education programs. This goal aims to strengthen District efforts to improve postsecondary enrollment and student outcomes and to make it easier for students to attend postsecondary education.

District efforts to meet this initiative should spark and support local creativity to increase FAFSA completion and postsecondary enrollment rates. The Board directs the administration to develop plans to pilot and initiate new strategies to increase yearly student FAFSA completion rates. The Board may accept gifts, grants, and donations, including in-kind donations, to implement this policy.

Strategies

The Board believes this goal of increased FAFSA completion rates can be attained utilizing, but not limited to, the following strategies/considerations:

Instruction

FAFSA Completion Program

Strategies (continued)

1. Design FAFSA completion initiatives according to the target population's needs. Low-income students, English-Language students, homeless students, foster youth, and first generational youth should be the center of this initiative.
2. Establish and maintain strong partnerships with as many stakeholders as possible, with multiple organizations to assist.
3. Provide individualized meeting between students and staff.
4. Collect and monitor appropriate data to identify which students are not completing applications and target extra support to them.
5. Build trusting relationships with parents and the community in order to ensure students and their families feel comfortable in filling out the forms.
6. Design systems, tools and events focusing on students who might otherwise not complete an application.
7. Provide a network of resources to support school counselors and teachers.
8. Start raising awareness about FAFSA early, prior to senior year.
9. Provide sufficient and easily accessible resources on district/school websites.
10. Offer school-day support for students and their parents/guardians.
11. Use existing programs and forums, such as advisory periods, college and career planning seminars, parent meetings etc. to provide assistance.
12. Stress financial aid is for technical, two and four year schools.

As required, the Board will publish and make available on the District website the annual FAFSA student completion rate for the graduating class of each high school within the District.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes
P. A. 21-199 An Act Concerning Various Revisions and Additions to the Statutes Relating to Education and Workforce Development, Sect. 6, 7, 8.

Policy Adopted:

MEMORANDUM TO: MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

FROM: SHAWN L. PARKHURST, SUPERINTENDENT

DATE: FEBRUARY 10, 2022

RE: CURRICULUM PROPOSAL

Tonight, the Curriculum Directors will discuss 3 new course proposals, and answer any questions you may have.

Journalism: Focus on Sports Writing (0.5 English Credit)

Throughout this semester, this writing-focused course, students will enhance their written and analytical skills by focusing on professional and amateur sports. Students will understand the constructs of a sports article, examine biases, create original sports pieces, analyze model works, and discuss relevant concepts. Students will also engage with athletes on our own school teams for real world application of skills.

** We have already an approved Journalism course that just doesn't narrow the focus, so we can cater the description to include the components that allowed it to be approved through NCAA if need be...

Computer Science Principles (1.0 Credit)

Code.org's Computer Science Principles (CSP) curriculum is a full-year, rigorous, entry-level course that introduces grade 9 - 12 students to the foundational concepts of computer science and modern computing. The course covers a broad range of foundational topics such as programming, algorithms, the Internet, big data, digital privacy and security, and the societal impacts of computing, challenging students to explore how computing and technology can impact the world. Every student in every school should have the opportunity to learn computer science. The curriculum is designed to reach a diverse group of students through experiences that are supportive, equitable, engaging, and lead to valuable learning. The curriculum includes daily lesson plans made up of inquiry-based activities, videos, assessments, and computing tools, in a scaffolded and approachable way to encourage student collaboration, support independent creation, as they discover core computing concepts. This year-long introductory course has no prerequisites required for students.

Digital Illustration & Design (0.5 Credit)

This semester-long course is a digital art class where students explore the visual effects of software programs such as Adobe Photoshop & Procreate using Ipads & Apple pencils to create digital works of Art. Students will learn about the tools available to create textures, layering, lighting and more. Outcomes will include creating original digital illustrations, photo manipulations, and commercial Art while applying the Elements and principles of design & historical styles into the final products.

MEMORANDUM TO: MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
 FROM: SHAWN L. PARKHURST, SUPERINTENDENT
 DATE: FEBRUARY 10, 2022
 RE: PROGRESS TOWARD GOAL

Chronic Absenteeism:

Windsor Locks Public Schools continues to closely monitor student attendance with the goal to reduce our chronic absenteeism district wide to under 10%.

Chronic absenteeism by district and school cumulatively through January 31, 2022 for all learners (*definition of chronic absenteeism is missing 10% or more days of school*)

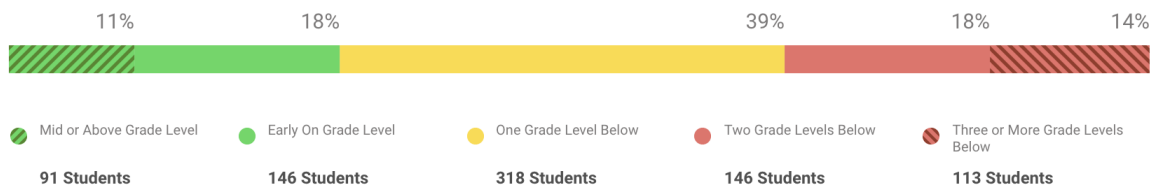
School	September 2021	October 2021 <i>Cumulative Year to Date</i>	November 2021 <i>Cumulative Year to Date</i>	December 2021 <i>Cumulative Year to Date</i>	January 2022 <i>Cumulative Year to Date</i>
District	28.9%	27.2%	26.7%	28.4%	30.5%
WLHS	32.0%	40.8% *19%	37.4% *13.9%	38.9% *14.8%	40.7% *20.8%
WLMS	24.5%	19.7% *12.34	20.7% *13.9%	27.2% *14.2%	27.8% *12.93%
South	28.6%	22.4% *13%	18.5% *11%	17.1% *12%	18.7% *8.9%
North	23.4%	20.5% *18%	19.4% *18%	22.3% *15%	25.4% *18%

****Denotes the % of students chronically absent not due to quarantining and isolation***

- District overall slight increase in January; expansive uptick in Covid related absences districtwide in January
- All schools making improvements toward the goal of 10% when those in quarantine or isolation are removed
- South Elementary has met and exceeded the district goal of under 10%
- Continue to be #1 in the lowest chronic absenteeism among Alliance Districts in 2021-2022

iReady Benchmark Assessment Progress Toward Goals

District Level Report for Windsor Locks Students Grades 1-8 (READING)



→ Fall 2021: **29%** of all Grade 1-8 students mastered **reading** standards in their current grade level

District Goal for Grades 1-8 (READING)

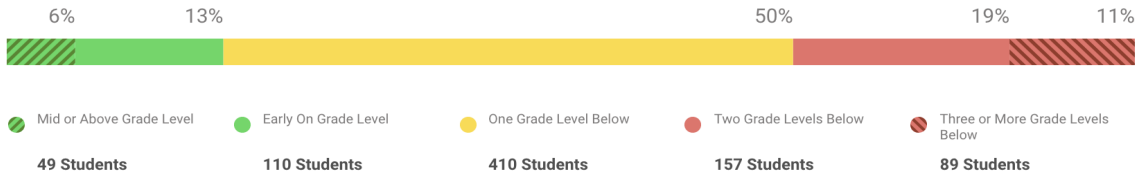
By February 2022, 52% of all students will be on or above grade level

→ Winter 2022: **52%** of all Grade 1-8 students mastered **reading** standards in their current grade level

District Mid-Year Goal Achieved/Met

By May 2022, 74% of all students will be on or above grade level

District Level Report for Windsor Locks Students Grades 1-8 (MATHEMATICS)



→ Fall Results: **19%** of all Grade 1-8 students mastered **math** standards in their current grade level

District Goal for Grades 1-8 (MATHEMATICS)

By February 2022, 46% of all students will be on or above grade level

→ Winter Results: **42%** of all Grade 1-8 students mastered math standards in their current grade level

District Mid-Year Goal Approaching Goal

By May 2022, 73% of all students will be on or above grade level

Grade Level Reading Data & Identified 21-22 Goals

Grade	September 2021 % at or above grade level	February 2022 Goal	February 2022 Results	May 2022 Goal
1 <i>82 students</i>	13% <i>10 students</i>	53% <i>44 students</i>	39% Not Met <i>32 students</i>	95% <i>78 students</i>
2 <i>113 students</i>	14% <i>16 students</i>	44% <i>48 students</i>	40% Approaching <i>45 students</i>	73% <i>82 students</i>
3 <i>120 students</i>	42% <i>50 students</i>	62% <i>74 students</i>	62% Met <i>74 students</i>	82% <i>98 students</i>
4 <i>101 students</i>	37% <i>38 students</i>	60% <i>60 students</i>	60% Met <i>60 students</i>	84% <i>84 students</i>
5 <i>90 students</i>	27% <i>24 students</i>	49% <i>45 students</i>	46% Approaching <i>41 students</i>	71% <i>64 students</i>
6 <i>119 students</i>	26% <i>30 students</i>	44% <i>52 students</i>	38% Not Met <i>45 students</i>	62% <i>74 students</i>
7 <i>96 students</i>	28% <i>26 students</i>	45% <i>43 students</i>	49% Exceeded <i>47 students</i>	63% <i>60 students</i>
8 <i>99 students</i>	43% <i>42 students</i>	57% <i>56 students</i>	60% Exceeded <i>59 students</i>	71% <i>70 students</i>

- **Grades 3, 4, 7 and 8 met or exceeded the goal**
- **Grades 2 and 5 approaching the goal**
- **Grades 1 and 6 did not meet the goal**

Grade Level Mathematics Data & Identified 21-22 Goals

Grade	September 2021 % at or above grade level	February 2022 Goal	February 2022 Results	May 2022 Goal
1 <i>82 students</i>	9% <i>7 students</i>	50% <i>41 students</i>	45% Approaching <i>37 students</i>	92% <i>75 students</i>
2 <i>113 students</i>	9% <i>10 students</i>	39% <i>44 students</i>	28% Not Met <i>31 students</i>	70% <i>79 students</i>
3 <i>120 students</i>	14% <i>17 students</i>	42% <i>50 students</i>	32% Not Met <i>38 students</i>	71% <i>85 students</i>
4 <i>101 students</i>	26% <i>26 students</i>	56% <i>56 students</i>	61% Exceeded <i>61 students</i>	85% <i>86 students</i>
5 <i>90 students</i>	27% <i>24 students</i>	54% <i>49 students</i>	50% Approaching <i>45 students</i>	81% <i>73 students</i>
6 <i>119 students</i>	23% <i>28 students</i>	48% <i>57 students</i>	37% Not Met <i>44 students</i>	72% <i>86 students</i>
7 <i>96 students</i>	24% <i>23 students</i>	48% <i>46 students</i>	39% Not Met <i>37 students</i>	72% <i>69 students</i>
8 <i>99 students</i>	24% <i>24 students</i>	46% <i>45 students</i>	38% Not Met <i>37 students</i>	67% <i>66 students</i>

- **Grade 4 exceeded the goal**
- **Grades 1 and 5 approaching the goal**
- **Grades 2, 3, 6, 7, 8 did not meet the goal**

Action Steps

<p>Goal/Area of Focus: Deliver high quality, focused, target instruction to all students to support them to reach or exceed their growth target in the area of Mathematics and Reading.</p>	<p>Theory of Action: If all students have access to and receive high quality, focused, targeted instruction focused on formative assessment, feedback grounded in Accountable Talk and curriculum and pathways driven by <i>Iready</i> and <i>Teacher Toolbox</i> resources, then 100% of all students will demonstrate growth by May 2022 and 75% will meet or exceed their personalized growth targets in the areas of Mathematics and Reading by May 2022.</p>
<p>Prior to February 14, 2022</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Determine most frequent standards assessed on SBAC ❖ Determine progress of individual students on most frequent standards assessed on SBAC ❖ Model and demonstrate use of standards mastery within the <i>iReady platform</i> (mirrors SBAC like format and tools) ❖ Engaged Instructional Specialists in planning for instructional implementation framework
<p>February 15, 2022 through April 19, 2022</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Daily delivery of instructional implementation framework ❖ Weekly conferencing with students on progress noting GLOWS & GROWS ❖ Small group, targeted instruction on standards not yet mastered aligned to SBAC highest priority standards ❖ Student use of <i>iReady Pathway</i> to meet 45 minutes usage goal and lessons passed goal ❖ Monitoring weekly of student attempts at standards and intervene with support of interventions and Directors/Coaches ❖ Actively proctor and provide student feedback on use in real-time ❖ Standards Mastery assessments provided to students and created into actionable instructional approaches ❖ Purposefully teach the vocabulary unique to SBAC for student mastery, understanding of the question and format
<p>April 19, 2022</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ SBAC Testing begins

MEMORANDUM TO: MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

FROM: SHAWN L. PARKHURST, SUPERINTENDENT

DATE: FEBRUARY 10, 2022

RE: MASKS IN SCHOOL UPDATE

On February 7, 2022 Governor Lamont announced in his press conference endorsement of the plan to eliminate the statewide mask requirement related to the mandate in schools. This plan was developed in consultation with the Connecticut Department of Public Health and the Connecticut Department of Education. It is expected that the statewide mandate will end on February 28, 2022 (pending Connecticut General Assembly support and approval).

The decision whether or not to continue mandating masks in schools will transition to the local authorities in individual towns and school districts.

At this time we do anticipate additional guidance, including health metrics and revised protocols to be issued by the CT Department of Public Health and the CT Department of Education, which will include revised quarantining and social distancing requirements.

This evening I am recommending that the Board of Education seek input and guidance from our District Medical Advisor, Dr. Ann Milanese, and our Nurse Supervisor, Lisa Ciaffaglione, to consider making masks **optional** effective February 28, 2022. The decision may need to be reconsidered pending any updated legislation, mandates or various public safety risks (surges, new variants, outbreaks).

Windsor Locks Public Schools

www.wlps.org

Educational Leadership

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Superintendent of Schools 860-292-5000

Giovanna Testani, Principal
North Street School 860-292-5027

Monica Briggs, Principal
South Elementary School 860-292-5021

David Prinstein, Principal, Christine Domler, Assistant Principal
Windsor Locks Middle School 860-292-5012

Rebecca Bissonnette, Principal, Carrie Apanovitch, Assistant Principal
Windsor Locks High School 860-292-5032

Brian Deming, President
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Heather Earley
Director of Elementary Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

Kristen Krupa
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Megan Parrette
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