



LOUDOUN COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS (LCPS)
2017-2018
STUDENT and PARENT DRUGS ALERT

- Students are prohibited from possessing, distributing, selling, using, or being under the influence of drugs on school property or while under the control or supervision of school personnel.
- Students who violate the Drug Policy may be expelled (removed from school for a minimum of one year – possibly permanently) and will be reported to law enforcement.
- Students who need to take medication (prescription or non-prescription) must comply with the provisions of Policy §8-53, which is available on the LCPS Website (www.lcps.org).
- Possession, sale, or distribution of drug paraphernalia or look-like/imitation drugs is also prohibited and punishable under the Drug Policy.
- The LCPS Drug Policy is printed below and on the reverse side of this form. Please read the policy and discuss it with your child. If you have any questions, contact your school's principal.

Students – 2017-2018

STUDENT CONDUCT

§8-36 Drugs

A. School Responsibilities

Schools are responsible for maintaining an atmosphere conducive to learning and for protecting students from illegal and harmful influences. Students have a responsibility to obey the laws and school rules and to be free from the influence of drugs while in school. All members of the school community are subject to the laws, and school personnel have the obligation to report suspected violations of laws to proper authorities.

B. Student Responsibilities

Students are strictly prohibited from possessing, distributing, selling, using, or being under the influence of any drug (including anabolic steroids), any chemical substance that affects the brain or nervous system, or any substance represented to be or believed to be a drug or chemical substance that affects the brain or nervous system or from possession of any drug-related paraphernalia while on school property, under school authority, or at a school sponsored activity.

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§8-36 Drugs (continued)

Any student who brings, possesses, distributes, sells or uses:

- a) any drug (including anabolic steroid);
- b) a controlled substance or any imitation or look-alike drug or controlled substance;
- c) marijuana or imitation or look-alike marijuana;
- d) any chemical or other substance that affects the brain or nervous system; or
- e) any chemical or other substance represented to be or believed to be capable of affecting the brain or nervous system shall be expelled from school in accordance with Policy §8-28.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, given the facts of a particular case, special circumstances may exist indicating that other disciplinary action may be appropriate and may be recommended by the principal. The Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee shall conduct a preliminary review of all cases under this policy to determine if disciplinary action other than expulsion is appropriate. If the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee determines that disciplinary action other than expulsion is appropriate, disciplinary action shall be taken in accordance with Policy §8-28 and the Administrative Regulations of this policy. If the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee determines that expulsion is appropriate, the School Board or a committee thereof shall review this determination and nonetheless may determine that based upon the facts of a particular case, special circumstances exist indicating that other disciplinary action is appropriate and may reverse or modify the determination of the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee. If the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee, or the School Board finds that special circumstances exist, recommended action shall include (1) a disciplinary assignment to the Substance Use Education Program as specified in the Administrative Regulations to this policy, and may also include (2) long-term suspension from school. This policy is applicable to students at all grade levels. Any suspension together with an assignment to the Substance Use Education Program under this policy may be appealed under Policy §2-27. A disciplinary assignment to the Substance Use Education Program under this policy is not a placement in an Alternative Education Program under Policy §8-40.

Students who are under the influence of drugs while under school authority, on a school bus, on school property, or at a school sponsored activity, and students who possess drug paraphernalia while under school authority, on a school bus, on school property, or at a school sponsored activity shall be subject to disciplinary action, which shall include (1) assignment to the Substance Use Education Program as specified in the Administrative Regulations to this policy, and may include (2) long-term suspension from school, or (3) referral to the School Board for expulsion in accordance with Policy §8-28.

All students who are required to attend the Substance Use Education Program as a result of a violation of Policy §8-28 shall be required to undergo evaluation for drug or alcohol Use by an appropriately licensed professional with expertise in substance Use treatment. If recommended by the evaluator and with the consent of the student's parent/s, the student may be required to participate in a treatment program.

Students shall cooperate with school personnel who are investigating violations of the drug policy, including acceptance of school personnel's right to conduct reasonable searches of students' personal belongings in accordance with Policy §8-2 of the policies. Failure of any student to permit such reasonable search will be considered in defiance of school authority and may result in involuntary transfer, long-term suspension, or expulsion from school.

Publications or other printed matter which advocate the use of illegal drugs or the Use of legal drugs, or which portray such use or abuse as socially acceptable behavior, or which advertise the sale of counterfeit or "look-alike" or "act-alike" drugs or drug-related paraphernalia are prohibited from sale or distribution on school property. Any student selling or distributing such matter on school property shall be subject to school discipline.

The provisions hereof which prohibit students from being under the influence of drugs shall not apply to any student who has taken medication (either prescription or non-prescription) in strict compliance with doctor's orders or manufacturer's recommended dosage and in accordance with Policy §8-53, where applicable.

Adopted: 3/9/71

Revised: 8/12/75, 6/10/80, 11/16/90, 6/22/93, 4/6/95, 6/10/97, 6/23/98, 9/14/99, 1/8/2002, 12/9/03, 9/26/06, 12/8/09

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