

DRUGS, TOBACCO, ALCOHOL

Recent studies have indicated that there has been a rapid increase in the use of harmful drugs among adolescents, and even among younger children, with an especially rapid increase in the use of alcohol. Since the use of these harmful agents may have a deleterious effect on the health and welfare of the users, and causes far-reaching and detrimental consequences to the users, their families and society, every effort will be made by all members of the district staff to prevent use of such harmful drugs, tobacco and alcohol by our students.

The professional staff must be alert to the problem and become more expert in recognition of the symptoms of such use. Therefore, it is mandatory that school personnel at all levels take steps to acquire basic knowledge about the nature of drug problems so that their judgments in this area can be well-founded to guard against impulsive responses or jumping to conclusions. Annually, teachers in each grade shall emphasize the **knowledge, skills and attitudes required to understand and avoid the** effects of alcohol, nicotine, tobacco and drugs on health, character, citizenship and personality development as required by the health curriculum program and in such other contexts that touch on the subject. Through both the curriculum and other interaction with students, all staff members can and must convey the message that drug and alcohol use can have far-reaching, harmful effects and is illegal in the school population. Any curriculum dealing with drugs, especially at the secondary level, should include school policies and procedures in dealing with drug abuses, penalties for violations, and the legal implications of drug use.

Annually, the administration will make use of in-service training sessions for both certified and classified staff in faculty meetings and other appropriate vehicles in order to achieve the goals of this policy. The resources of community agencies should be utilized whenever beneficial.

cf. 5131.6 Drug Policy for the Litchfield Public Schools

Legal Reference	Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-16b Prescribed courses of study
	Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-19 Alcohol, nicotine or tobacco and drugs and acquired immune deficiency syndrome. Training of personnel
	Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-220 Duties of boards of education.

Litchfield Board of Education
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