

Substance Abuse Program

Actions taken by staff in dealing with student use of alcohol and the use and abuse of controlled illegal, addictive or harmful substances including anabolic steroids will have as their first concern the welfare of the student involved and the other students in the school. Although a helping relationship rather than an investigative and punitive approach will be emphasized, necessary and appropriate disciplinary action will be taken when laws or school regulations are violated. Law enforcement agencies will be called upon for investigative and consultative assistance where illegal drug or alcohol activity has occurred.

Prevention

The prevention program shall focus on classroom instruction, guidance services and the school climate.

Instruction

This dimension of the prevention program shall focus on:

- A. The effects of addictive substances such as alcohol, drugs and nicotine upon the body.
- B. Skill development related to self-esteem, goal-setting, decision-making, conflict management, problem-solving, refusal and communication.

Guidance Services

Staff shall meet with students, individually and in small groups, to supplement addictive substance prevention, instruction and skill development. Staff will also assist parents to maximize the prevention efforts of the school.

School Climate

A facilitative school environment can help students to achieve in a productive manner (academically, socially and emotionally). The school shall strive to be a place where:

- A. Students, staff, and parents respect themselves and others.
- B. Individuals can be trusted to do what they say they will do.
- C. High morale is evident.
- D. Each person feels that he/she has a voice in the decisions that affect him/her.
- E. All feel that they are continuing to learn and grow.
- F. All value diversity and accept it as an opportunity for growth and development.
- G. All possess a "sense of belonging".
- H. All feel that they can make a difference to someone else.

Intervention

The West Valley School District's intervention strategy is aimed at eliminating student use of tobacco, alcohol, and other drugs.

- All schools will establish and maintain an assistance program, which utilizes a team approach. The team will assess the student's level of use/abuse, develop goals, and make recommendations for needed services for the student.
- Team members will receive training in confidentiality procedures, alcohol and drug abuse, and intervention strategies.

Ongoing in-service will be provided for faculty and staff focusing upon those characteristics of a comprehensive program that are crucial for successful implementation.

Corrective Action

Corrective action procedures will be followed as per District Policy/Procedures 3240.

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