

PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF BROOKLINE POLICY MANUAL

I 3 e. Substance Use Prevention and Education (Voted 12/1/16, #16-76)

Purpose:

Mass. Gen Laws c. 71, s.96 requires each public school:

- to have policies regarding substance abuse prevention and the education of its students about the dangers of drugs, alcohol, and tobacco;
- to notify students' parents or guardians about the related policies and procedures, professional development support of staff; and
- to post the policies on the school district website.

And requires schools to file these policies with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE).

In accordance with state and federal law, and this policy the PSB shall provide age-appropriate, developmentally appropriate, evidence-based alcohol, tobacco, and drug prevention education programs in grades 5-12.

The alcohol, tobacco, and drug prevention program shall address the legal, social, and health consequences of alcohol, tobacco, and drug use, with emphasis on non-use by school-age children. The program also shall include information about effective techniques and skill development for delaying and abstaining from using, as well as skills for addressing peer pressure to use alcohol, tobacco, or drugs.

The objectives of this program, as stated below, are rooted in the Committee's belief that prevention requires education, and that the most important aspect of the policies and guidelines of the District should be the education of children and youth on healthy decision-making:

- To prevent, delay, and/or reduce alcohol, tobacco, and drug use among children and youth.
- To increase students' understanding of the legal, social, and health consequences of alcohol, tobacco, and drug use.
- To teach students self-management skills, social skills, negotiation skills, and refusal skills that will help them to make healthy decisions and avoid alcohol, tobacco, and drug use.

The curriculum, instructional materials, and outcomes used in this program shall be recommended by the Superintendent or his/her designee.

This policy shall be posted on the district's website and notice shall be provided to all students and parents in accordance with state law. Additionally, the district shall file a copy of this policy with DESE in accordance with law in a manner requested by DESE.

SOURCE: MASC March 2016

LEGAL REFS.: M.G.L. 71:1 ;71:96
M.G.L. 71:2A; 71:96; 272:40A

CROSS REFS: GBEC, Drug Free Workplace Policy
JICH, Drug and Alcohol Use by Students
IHAMB, Teaching about Alcohol, Tobacco, and Drugs
GBEC, Drug Free Workplace Policy