

# NORTHERN WESTMORELAND CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER

No. 227

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES /  
PARAPHERNALIA

ADOPTED: October 20, 2011

REVISED: April 15, 2025

## Purpose

The Joint Operating Committee recognizes that the use and abuse of controlled substances as defined in this policy is a serious problem with legal, physical and social implications for the whole school community. The purpose of this policy is to prohibit student possession, use and/or distribution of controlled substances, except as permitted by applicable state or federal law and Joint Operating Committee policy.

## Definition

For purposes of this policy, controlled substances shall include:

1. Any Controlled substances prohibited by federal or Pennsylvania laws.
2. Look-alike drugs.
3. Alcoholic beverages.
4. Anabolic steroids.
5. Drug paraphernalia.
6. Any volatile solvents or inhalants, such as but not limited to glue and aerosol products.
7. Substances that when ingested cause a physiological effect that is similar to the effect of a controlled substance as defined by state or federal law.
8. Prescription or nonprescription (over-the-counter) medications, except those for which permission for use in school has been granted pursuant to Joint Operating Committee policy.

For purposes of this policy, under the influence shall include any consumption or ingestion of controlled substances by a student.

For purposes of this policy, look-alike drugs shall include any pill, capsule, tablet, powder, plant matter or other item or substance that is designed or intended to resemble a controlled substance prohibited by this policy, or is used in a manner likely to induce others to believe the material is a controlled substance.

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### Authority

The Joint Operating Committee prohibits students from using, possessing, distributing, and being under the influence of any controlled substances during center hours, at any time while on center property, at any center-sponsored activity, and during the time spent traveling to and from the center and center-sponsored activities.

The Joint Operating Committee may require participation in drug counseling, rehabilitation, testing or other programs as a condition of reinstatement into the center's educational or extracurricular programs resulting from violations of this policy.

In the case of a student with a disability, including a student for whom an evaluation is pending, the center shall take all steps required to comply with state and federal laws and regulations, the procedures set forth in the memorandum of understanding with law enforcement and Joint Operating Committee policies.

### Off-Campus Activities

This policy shall also apply to student conduct that occurs off center property or during non-school hours to the same extent as provided in Joint Operating Committee policy on student discipline.

### Delegation of Responsibility

The Administrative Director or designee shall develop administrative regulations to identify and control of substance abuse in the center which:

1. Establish procedures to appropriately manage situations involving students suspected of using, possessing, being under the influence, or distributing controlled substances.
2. Disseminate to students, parents/guardians and staff the Joint Operating Committee policy and administrative regulations governing student abuse of controlled substances.
3. Provide education concerning the dangers of abusing controlled substances.
4. Establish procedures for education and readmission to the center of students convicted of offenses involving controlled substances.

### Guidelines

Violations of this policy may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion and referral for prosecution.

The Administrative Director or designee shall immediately report required incidents and may report discretionary incidents involving the prohibited possession, use or sale of controlled substances on center property, at any center-sponsored activity or on a conveyance providing

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transportation to or from the center or a center-sponsored activity to a law enforcement agency that has jurisdiction over the center's property in accordance with state law and regulations the procedures set forth in the memorandum of understanding with law enforcement and Joint Operating Committee policies.

The Administrative Director or designee shall notify the parent/guardian of any student directly involved in an incident involving the prohibited possession, use or sale of controlled substances as a victim or suspect immediately, as soon as practicable. The Administrative Director or designee shall document attempts made to reach the parent/guardian.

The Administrative Director shall annually, by July 31, report all incidents of prohibited possession, use or sale of controlled substances to the PA Department of Education on the required form.

In all cases involving students and controlled substances, the need to protect the school community from undue harm and exposure to drugs shall be recognized.

No student may be admitted to a program that seeks to identify and rehabilitate the potential abuser without the intelligent, voluntary and aware consent of the student and ~~his/her~~ parent/guardian.

### Reasonable Suspicion/Testing

If based on the student's behavior, medical symptoms, vital signs or other observable factors, the building administrator has reasonable suspicion that the student is under the influence of a controlled substance, the student may be required to submit to drug or alcohol testing. The testing may include but is not limited to the analysis of blood, urine, saliva, or the administration of a Breathalyzer test.

### Anabolic Steroids

The Joint Operating Committee prohibits the use of anabolic steroids by students involved in school-related activities, except for a valid medical purpose. Body building and muscle enhancement, increasing muscle bulk or strength, or the enhancement of athletic ability are not valid medical purposes. Human Growth Hormone (HGH) shall not be included in anabolic steroid.

Students shall be made aware of the dangers of steroid use; that anabolic steroids are classified as controlled substances; and that their unauthorized use, possession, purchase or sale could subject students to suspension, expulsion and/or criminal prosecution.

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### Legal

1. Pol. 210
2. Pol. 210.1
3. 35 P.S. 780-102
4. 21 U.S.C. 812
5. 24 P.S. 1850.1
6. 22 PA Code 12.3
7. 22 PA Code 10.23
8. 20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq
9. Pol. 103.1
10. Pol. 113.1
11. Pol. 113.2
12. Pol. 805.1
13. Pol. 218
14. 24 P.S. 1306.2-B
15. 24 P.S. 1319-B
16. 42 Pa. C.S.A. 8337
17. Pol. 233
18. Pol. 236
19. 22 PA Code 10.2
20. 22 PA Code 10.21
21. 22 PA Code 10.22
22. 22 PA Code 10.25
23. 35 P.S. 807.1
24. 35 P.S. 807.2
- 22 PA Code 403.1
- 35 P.S. 780-101 et seq
- 35 P.S. 807.1 et seq
- 20 U.S.C. 7114
- 20 U.S.C. 7118
- 21 U.S.C. 801 et seq
- 34 CFR Part 300
- Pol. 122
- Pol. 805
- Pol. 823

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