



Drug Use While in the Care of Students for Employees/Chaperones-Volunteers John Underwood American Athletic Institute

Background: Pressures and opportunities for children to be involved in drug, tobacco and alcohol abuse has increased to crisis proportions during recent decades. Unsupervised social interaction and unknowledgeable adult leadership including adult social drug use have contributed to the problem. Because the adult vigilant supervision of youth is critical during the school years and the role modeling of adults has been shown to greatly impact youth, we must address adult drug use while in the care of students.

No school district employee or Chaperone or Volunteer, during the duty day, at the work site, or at times of other assigned responsibilities, including activities associated with school district functions out of district, shall have in his/her personal possession or consume alcohol, or any illegal drug, or controlled substance or prescription drug, without medical documentation and/or approval, including the approval of the school district." The use of prescription drugs may cause health related problems that pose a serious concern for individuals under their care, guidance and supervision.

(example operation of a motor vehicle/machinery while under influence of painkillers, muscle relaxants etc.)

An employee who possesses or consumes alcohol, tobacco or drugs on work time is subject to disciplinary and/or employment action, which may include termination, following established district procedure." Any and all violation(s) of this standard shall result in documentation in writing to the employee which shall furthermore be recorded in the individuals personnel file.

Additionally, any employee or "volunteer / chaperone" in the care of youth, shall understand that this policy explicitly prohibits use of tobacco products, including chew tobacco or snuff, in the presence of students, including outdoor use and states that no employee, volunteer / chaperone shall "possess or consume any alcoholic beverage, nor use any illicit drug during the duration of their assignment as a supervisor of youth, or during any time when students are under their supervision or care, including during the hours following the end of the day's activities for students if on an overnight trip."

An individual may not use the above mentioned substances during any school related function or trip until the care of students has been transferred from their supervision. It also prohibits an individual giving access to or from encouraging or allowing students to use tobacco, drugs or alcohol during school activities. Chaperones/ volunteers violating the rules would not be used again and could be immediately expelled from future activities. Employees would risk discipline as severe as termination. Both volunteers and employees are also subject to legal ramifications and actions, if it is determined that they have been involved in the facilitation, of student drug use, provided access to drugs or have not asserted reasonable effort to prevent drug use, during their supervision of student minors.