



Tobacco, Cannabis, Alcohol and Drugs at School

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Policy Statement

The St. Clair Catholic District School Board, per the Education Act, is responsible for the well-being and education of the students in its care. The Board believes that awareness of the hazards of tobacco, cannabis, alcohol and drugs is essential for a healthy life-style. An important element of the education of its students requires that Board staff hold students accountable for their behaviour and activities.

Policy Goals

The Board will work in partnership with students, parents, law enforcement agencies, community agencies, groups and parishes to help young people avoid the use of tobacco, cannabis, alcohol and drugs.

Definitions

School Property means not only a school building and property, but includes out-of-classroom programs, activities and facilities approved by or under the jurisdiction of the Board

Principal means a principal or his/her designate

Parent means a parent or person having legal custody of a student

Alcohol means all substances defined as liquor in the Liquor Licence Act

Cannabis means any form of cannabis containing the active ingredient tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) and any items used to support the use of cannabis including but not limited to rolling papers or wraps, holders, pipes, water pipes, edibles, bongs and vaporizers, that is represented to be used in the consumption of cannabis

Illicit Drugs include:

- a) drugs named in the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act, such as: opiates and cocaine;
- b) anabolic steroids and other performance enhancing drugs;
- c) drugs in Part 3 of the Food and Drugs Act, such as: amphetamines and barbiturates and other prescription drugs not prescribed by a physician for the individual in question.

Non-illicit Drugs include all solvents and inhalants, for example: glue, gasoline and some aerosol products

Search of the student's locker and the personal effects in the locker means a search of the locker and of the student's personal belongings exclusive of the person of the student, with a witness present. If possible the student should be requested to open the locker and empty all personal belongings.

Search of the person of the student and student's personal effects not in the locker means a voluntary search of all clothing, purses, knapsacks etc., of the student. School personnel, with a witness present, are to request the student to empty all personal effects from clothing and purses/knapsacks.

Intoxication means being under the influence of alcohol, cannabis, drugs (illicit and non-illicit), and other substances such as glue, solvents and aerosol inhalants.

Possession means having in their possession or under their control alcohol, cannabis, or non-medical or illicit drugs and other substances.

Supplying or Selling means selling or distributing alcohol, cannabis or drugs and other substances.

Search and Seizure/Confiscation

- a) A principal has an obligation to carrying out his/her duty to maintain proper order and discipline in the school, has a discretion to deal with minor incidents on his/her own, or to involve parents and/or police.
- b) In order to exercise this discretion the principal must know the nature and extent of the offence. This requires the principal to investigate any credible allegation of drug use/possession or selling.
- c) If the principal has reasonable grounds for believing that a search will turn up evidence that a student has violated, or is violating, either the law or the rules of the school, such a search may be justified. The search should not be excessively intrusive in light of the age and sex of the student and the nature of the infraction.

Tobacco means all tobacco products such as cigarettes, e-cigarettes, vape products, cigars, cut tobacco, chewing tobacco, snuff, etc.

Confidentiality refers to the obligation to refrain from voluntarily disclosing any information which has been received in confidence. This is mitigated by what is in the best interests of the student.