Jim Thorpe Area School District

Book	Policy Manual
Section	200 Pupils
Title	Controlled Substances/Paraphernalia
Code	227
Status	Recommended
Legal	1. Pol. 210 2. Pol. 210.1 3. 35 P.S. 780-102 4. 21 U.S.C. 812 5. 24 P.S. 510 6. 24 P.S. 511 7. 22 PA Code 12.3 8. 22 PA Code 10.23 9. 20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq 10. Pol. 103.1 11. Pol. 113.1 12. Pol. 113.2 13. Pol. 805.1 14. Pol. 218 15. 24 P.S. 1306.2-B 16. 24 P.S. 1319-B 17. 42 Pa. C.S.A. 8337 18. Pol. 233 19. Pol. 236 20. 22 PA Code 10.2 21. 22 PA Code 10.21 22. 22 PA Code 10.22 23. 22 PA Code 10.25 24. 35 P.S. 807.1 25. 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

Adopted	December 10, 2010
Last Reviewed	November 24, 2025
Prior Revised Dates	March 27, 2014

Purpose

The Board 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 Board policy.[1][2]**

Definitions

For purposes of this policy, **controlled substances** shall include:[3][4]

1. **Any** controlled substance 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 laws.
8. Prescription or nonprescription (over-the-counter) medications, except those for which permission for use in school has been granted pursuant to Board policy.[1][2]

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 drug 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.

Authority

The Board prohibits students from using, possessing, distributing and being under the influence of any controlled substances during school hours, at any time while on school property, at any school-sponsored activity, and during the time spent traveling to and from school and to and from school-sponsored activities.[5][6][7]

The Board may require participation in drug counseling, rehabilitation, testing or other programs as a condition of reinstatement into the school's educational, extracurricular or athletic 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 district 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 Board policies.[8][9][10][11][12][13]

Off-Campus Activities

This policy shall also apply to student conduct that occurs off school property **or during non-school hours to the same extent as provided in Board policy on student discipline.[14]**

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or designee shall develop administrative regulations to identify and control substance abuse in the schools which:

1. Establish procedures to appropriately manage situations involving students suspected of using, possessing, being under the influence or distributing controlled substances.**[15][16]**[17]
2. Disseminate to students, parents/guardians and staff the Board policy and administrative regulations governing student use of controlled substances.
3. Provide education concerning the dangers of abusing controlled substances.
4. Establish procedures for education and readmission to school 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.[14][18][19]

The Superintendent or designee shall immediately report required incidents and may report discretionary incidents involving **the prohibited** possession, use or sale of controlled substances on school property, at any school-sponsored activity or on a conveyance providing transportation to or from a school or school-sponsored activity to the **law enforcement agency** that has jurisdiction over the school's property, in accordance with state law and regulations, the procedures set forth in the memorandum of understanding with law enforcement and Board policies.[13]**[15][16]**[20][21][22]

The Superintendent 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 Superintendent or designee shall inform the parent/guardian whether or not the **law enforcement agency** that has jurisdiction over the school property has been or may be notified of the incident. The Superintendent or designee shall document attempts made to reach the parent/guardian.[13][20][23]

In accordance with state law, the Superintendent 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.**[13]**[15][16]**

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 parent/guardian.

Anabolic Steroids

The Board prohibits the use of anabolic steroids by students involved in school-related athletics, 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 as an anabolic steroid.[24]

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.[18][25]

Reasonable Suspicion/Testing

If based on the student's behavior, medical symptoms, vital signs or other observable factors, the building principal 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.