

Substance Abuse Policy

The Martha's Vineyard Public Schools prohibit possession, use, purchase, or sale of drugs, alcohol, drug paraphernalia, or any controlled substance in any place or vehicle under school jurisdiction or at any school sponsored activity, regardless of location.

Attempted sales, purchase, or distribution are likewise prohibited. The goal of this

policy is to insure a drug-free school environment.

It is the policy of the district to recognize the dangers of the misuse of drugs and alcohol

and to accept responsibility for promoting activities that will help students cope effectively with them. This policy focuses on:

Substance abuse prevention in the school and community population.

Intervention of school authorities into suspected and actual cases of substance abuse.

The enforcement of a clear and consistent disciplinary code in matters pertaining to substance abuse.

In all aspects of this policy, it is the district's position that early and prompt attention to

potential and actual problems will minimize the instances of alcoholism and other chemical dependencies.

A general aim of the school is to enlist the cooperation of students with respect to

substance abuse problems. Efforts should be made by staff to encourage the student

user to share his/her problem with parents, counselors, or other school staff members in

order to obtain help. The school system will continue to provide, without penalties,

assistance to students who are voluntarily seeking drug and alcohol treatment or

advice, and will continue to protect the due process rights of all students.