

## ALCOHOL TESTING AT SCHOOL-SPONSORED EVENTS

The Board of Education has determined that the use of alcohol by students in connection with proms and prom-related activities and other school events represents a particularly serious threat to the welfare of students.

The possession, transportation, distribution and/or consumption of alcohol by students prior to or during prom activities and other school events is strictly prohibited. Any student who reasonable appears to be under the influence of alcohol shall be subject to the provisions of this policy. Nothing herein contained shall preclude school administrators from disciplining a student pursuant to the Education Law and the Code of Conduct in additions to the provisions of this policy.

In order to promote a safe, healthy, and productive environment in connection with prom activities and other school events, the district implements the following testing policy with respect to students suspected of consumption of alcohol.

1. Any school personnel who have a reasonable suspicion that a particular student has consumed alcohol prior to or during a prom or prom-related activity or other school event may recommend to the administrator in charge the use of breathalyzer testing to determine such consumption. Reasonable suspicion shall be based on objective criteria including, but not limited to, admissions, reliable statements of others, alcohol on the breath, impairment of motor control and other outward signs of alcohol use or intoxication.
2. The District shall maintain an appropriately calibrated breathalyzer testing device and shall provide for training of appropriate employees in its use.
3. A student present at a prom or prom-related activity or other school event who is believed to have consumed alcohol prior to or during the event, will be discreetly excluded from the prom or other school event and escorted by the school official to a secure location. The test shall be administered by a trained school official. The student will be granted an opportunity to be heard concerning justification for a positive test result.

After due consideration of the student's rationale, the school official shall make an immediate determination whether to exclude the student from the event. If alcohol use has been determined, the student's parents or person in parental relation shall be immediately notified. Students identified as having consumed alcohol shall be detained under observation until a parent or person of suitable age and discretion is available to transport the student home. The student's behavior shall be referred to the school principal and/or Superintendent of Schools for further action pursuant to Section 3214 of the Education Law. Test results shall be considered in

making a determination whether to proceed further. If the student is insubordinate or disorderly or his/her conduct otherwise violates the provisions of the Code of Conduct, school administration may also proceed thereunder.

4. In the event that a student refuses the administration of a breathalyzer test, he/she will be presumed to have consumed alcohol. The matter will then be processed in the same manner as if a positive breathalyzer test result had been obtained, and the student will be excluded from the prom and prom-related activities and other school events.

As noted above, the possession, transportation, and distribution of alcoholic beverages during a prom or in connection with prom-related activities and other school events is strictly prohibited. Any student determined to have possessed, transported, or distributed alcoholic beverages or to be under the influence of alcohol at such activities shall be subject to immediate suspension and further discipline as provided in Section 3214 of the Education Law of the State of New York and the district's Code of Conduct.

In addition to any other penalties provided by law or by the Code of Conduct, the Building Principal may, for a violation of this policy, prohibit the student from attending other school events during the school year or succeeding school year. If the student is a Senior, the Building Principal may, for a violation of this policy, prohibit the student from attending or participating in the prom and/or the graduation ceremony, although the student would still be entitled to receive his/her diploma if he/she is otherwise entitled to it.

Cross-ref: 5300, Code of Conduct

Ref: Education Law §§804; 3214  
8 NYCRR §135.3  
Penal Law §220.00 et seq.  
Public Health Law §33035 seq.

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