

DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS POLICY STATEMENT

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

In order to maintain a healthy educational and working environment in the School District and to comply with the requirements of the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 and the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989 for purposes of receiving federal assistance, the Northwest Technology Center Board of Education adopts the following policy:

Using, possessing, dispensing, distributing, manufacturing, or being under the influence of a controlled substance, alcoholic beverage, or non-intoxicating beverage (as defined by Oklahoma Law) in any of the School District's facilities, on School District's property (including vehicles) or at a School District sponsored function or event by a student or employee of the School District is prohibited. Violation of this prohibition shall result in disciplinary action, which may include dismissal from school or work, or non-reentry of school or non-renewal of employment. Violations which constitute criminal acts will be referred for prosecution.

IT'S THE LAW

Northwest Technology Center is committed to assisting employees and students in dealing with chemical dependency problems. To help deal with chemical dependency problems, and to discourage the use and transportation of a chemical substance, the Board of Education will have searches of campus facilities by a trained dog and handler. Searches may be conducted at any time without notice. Searches may include work spaces, classrooms, lockers, vehicles, and even the employees and students themselves if the dog "alerts" to the person.

Parents and guardians of minor students shall be notified if prohibited substances are found. Law enforcement officials will be contacted if possession is verified or if difficulty is encountered with employees or students in question.

HEALTH AT RISK

The Northwest Technology Center Board of Education feels that certain activities are detrimental to the work environment and to individual educational development, and undermine effective work productivity and effective education. The school district is concerned with the health, safety, and well being of all employees and students. In order to increase awareness in the potential hazards associated with use and abuse, the following specific drugs and their effects are presented.

Tobacco/Nicotine – a significant number of people die each year from smoking-related coronary heart disease and up to almost half of all cancer deaths per year are linked to smoking. Lung, larynx, esophageal, bladder, pancreatic, and kidney cancers also strike smokers at increased rates. Chronic bronchitis and emphysema are 10 times more likely to occur among smokers.

Alcohol - consumption causes a number of marked behavioral patterns such as impaired judgment, increase in aggressive acts (including spouse and child abuse), impairments of the ability to learn and remember information, respiratory depression, and even death. Long-term consumption can lead to permanent damage to vital organs. Alcohol combined with other depressants can prove to be deadly.

Cannabis - (marijuana, tetrahydrocannabinol, hashish, hashish oil, etc.) physical effects are a substantial increase in the heart rate, bloodshot eyes, dry mouth and throat, and increased appetite. Impairs short-term memory, comprehension, concentration, coordination, and motivation. Marijuana can also produce paranoia and psychosis. Marijuana users often inhale the smoke deeply and hold it in their lungs for a long period; therefore, it enhances the risk of getting cancer because it contains more cancer causing agents than tobacco smoke.

Inhalants - (laughing gas, aerosol sprays, solvents) immediate effects include nausea, sneezing, coughing, nosebleeds, fatigue, lack of coordination, and loss of appetite. Solvents and aerosol sprays also decrease the heart and respiratory rates and impair judgment. Any butyl nitrite causes rapid pulse, headaches, and involuntary passing of urine and feces. Long-term use may result in hepatitis or brain damage. High concentrations of inhalants can cause suffocation by displacing the oxygen in the lungs.

Cocaine/Crack - stimulates the central nervous system and is extremely addictive both psychologically and physically. Immediate effects include dilated pupils, elevated blood pressure, increased heart rate, insomnia, loss of appetite, hallucinations, paranoia, and seizures. Tolerance develops rapidly.

Other Stimulants - (amphetamines, methamphetamines) some physical effects are feeling restless, anxious, moody, sweating, headache, blurred vision, dizziness, hallucinations, delusions, paranoia, increased heart and respiratory rates, elevated blood pressure, dilated pupils, decreased appetite, convulsions, and death due to stroke or heart failure.

Depressants - (downers, Quaaludes, Valium, Librium) can cause both physical and psychological dependence. Small amounts can produce calmness and relaxed muscles, but somewhat larger doses can cause slurred speech, staggering gait, and altered perception. Very large doses can cause respiratory depression, coma, and death. These depressants combined with alcohol can multiply the effects of the drugs, thereby multiplying the risks.

Hallucinogens - (PCP, LSD) interrupts the functions of the section of the brain that controls the intellect and keeps instinct in check. Self inflicted injuries, dulled senses, incoherent and blocked speech, impaired coordination, depression, anxiety, violent behavior, increased heart rate and blood pressure, convulsions, coma, and heart and lung failure may result..

Narcotics - (opium, Morphine, Demerol, heroin, etc.) initially produce feelings of euphoria often followed by drowsiness, nausea, and vomiting. An overdose may result in convulsions, coma, and death. Tolerance develops rapidly and dependence

is likely. Using contaminated syringes to inflict such drugs may result in AIDS.

AVAILABLE HELP

Northwest Technology Center does not endorse private or commercial products or services. The sources of information listed herein are intended only as a partial listing of the resources that are available to you the reader. Readers are encouraged to research and inform themselves of the services, relating to drug and alcohol abuse that are available to them, and are encouraged to visit the public library to find out more about the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse, or to call local, state, or national hotlines for further information, advice, or assistance.

Toll-Free Information

American Council on Alcoholism.....1-800-527-5344

www.aca-usa.org

National Institute on Drug Abuse Hotline.....1-800-662-HELP

www.drughelp.org

Local Resources

Department of Human Services..... 580-227-2515
Department of Human Services..... 580-327-5050

COUNSELING AND REHABILITATION

Students and Employee Awareness Programs will include but are not limited to speakers, video tapes, and posters. The Northwest Family Services Center will be instrumental in presentations to the entire student body and all employees. The counseling staff will conduct individual conferences with the student and the student's parents as needed.

This information is presented as a summary and is intended to serve as a guide for students, parents, employees, and the community. Compliance is mandatory.

The Drug Free School and Workplace Handbook is available in its entirety online at <https://nwtech.edu/student-services/student-policies-handbooks/>. Paper copies can be obtained in the Central Offices at each campuses, as well as in the Financial Aid Office.

**Referral Agencies for
Services, Support, and Dependency Rehabilitation**

Major County Health Department 501 East Broadway
Fairview, OK 580.227.3362
Services: General preventative health care
Fees: Varies according to program

Woods County Health Department 1616 W. Okla. Blvd.
Alva, OK 580.327.5050
Services: General preventative health care
Fees: Varies according to program

Northwest Center for Behavioral Health

Woodward, OK 580.256.8615
Alva, OK 580.327.1112
CRISIS HOTLINE: 800.545.0518

SANCTIONS

It shall be the policy of the Northwest Technology Center Board of Education that any instructor who has reasonable cause to suspect that a student may be under the influence of or the student has in his/her possession: Non-intoxicating beverages (beer); alcoholic beverages; or a controlled dangerous substance; as the above are defined by state law, shall immediately notify the Assistant Superintendent or his/her designee of such suspicions. The Assistant Superintendent shall immediately notify the superintendent and a parent or legal guardian of said student of the matter.

Any suspension and/or search of said student shall be subject to any applicable policy and state law or student handbook regulation.

Every instructor employed by the Northwest Technology Center Board of Education, who has reasonable cause to suspect that a student is under the influence of or has in his/her possession non-intoxicating beverages, alcoholic beverages, or a controlled dangerous substance and who reports such information to the appropriate official, shall be immune from all civil liability.

The assistant superintendent shall have the discretion to implement the following procedures based on the nature of the offense committed by the employee: the employee may be suspended from his/her duties with pay pending evaluation; disciplinary action may include dismissal or non-renewal of employment; violations which constitute criminal acts will be referred for prosecution. Employees who are engaged in the performance of work under the terms of a federal grant must, as condition of their employment, notify a District administrator of any criminal drug conviction for a violation which occurred at a District workplace within five days after the conviction. The conviction shall result in dismissal or non-renewal.

**Federal Penalties & Sanctions for
Illegal Possession of a Controlled Substance**

1st Conviction: up to 1 year imprisonment and fined at least \$1,000 but not more than \$100,000 or both. After one prior drug conviction: at least 15 days in prison, not to exceed 2 years and fined at least \$2,500 but not more than \$250,000, or both. After two or more prior convictions: at least 90 days in prison, not to exceed three years and fined at least \$5,000 but not more than \$250,000, or both. Special sentencing provisions for possession of crack cocaine: mandatory at least five years in prison, not to exceed 20 years and fined up to \$250,000, or both. Forfeiture of personal and real property used to possess or to facilitate possession of a controlled substance if that offense is punishable by more than one year imprisonment. Forfeiture of vehicles, boats, aircraft or any other conveyance used to transport or conceal a controlled substance. There is also a civil fine up to \$10,000.

Denial of Federal benefits, such as contracts and professional and commercial licenses, up to one year for first offense, up to five years for a second and subsequent offenses. Ineligible to receive or purchase a firearm. Revocation of certain Federal licenses and benefits, e.g. pilot license, public housing tenancy, etc., are vested within the authorities of individual Federal agencies.

In addition, state law provides that possession of or possession with intent to consume beer by someone under 21 years old is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed \$253. There are also state laws concerning driving under the influence of alcohol and using a false driver's license to obtain beer or other alcoholic beverages. Depending upon the number of previous convictions, or gravity of the circumstances you may be convicted of a felony or misdemeanor for such an offense. It is most likely that you will also forfeit your driving privileges in the event you are convicted of such an offense.

There will be no discrimination by the Northwest Technology Center School District because of race, color, sex, pregnancy, gender, gender expression or identity, national origin, religion, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, age, or genetic information in its programs, services, activities, and employment. Inquiries concerning application of this policy may be referred to NWTC Compliance Coordinators at 1801 11th St, Alva, OK 73717, (580) 327-0344 and at 801 S. Vo-Tech Dr, Fairview, OK 73737, (580) 227-3708.

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