Book	Policy Manual
Section	200 Students
Title	24/7 Drug and Alcohol Policy
Code	227.1
Status	Active
Adopted	April 28, 2011
Last Revised	May 18, 2021

Purpose

The use of drugs and alcohol by underage students is both an illegal and an extremely dangerous behavior.

Participants in extracurricular activities are expected to not indulge in the consumption, possession, or distribution of alcohol or any illegal substance in any manner or in any form. They are further expected to not be in attendance at any gathering or activity in which it is reasonable to conclude from the circumstances that alcohol or any illegal substance is being used or even presented with the possible intent of use. Excepted from this policy are all family events or religious events where students are under the supervision of their parents/guardians or other adults. However, the policy does apply to events such as high school graduation parties, pre-prom parties, post-prom parties or similar events where a large number of students are participating, even if these events are under the supervision of adults. These regulations apply to the illegal uses of any alcohol or drugs as proscribed by law in PA and neighboring states.

Thus, this policy is a 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year policy that governs any underage drinking or drug use except for those specific events specified above.

DESIGNATED DRIVERS:

Any students who are serving as "designated drivers" and not themselves using or transporting drugs or alcohol or under the influence of any illegal drugs or alcohol ARE NOT covered by this Policy while actually operating a motor vehicle. They are not exempt while in attendance at an event or location otherwise covered. (See Definitions, Designated Driver)

CONSEQUENCES:

This policy is cumulative with respect to attendance at Middle School and separately at High School. Thus, for example, a student who violates the policy in the 7th Grade and again in the 8th Grade will be treated as a second offense for the infraction in the 8th Grade. The same would hold true for a High School student who violates the policy in the 10th Grade and again in the 11th Grade. However, a student will start High School with no previous violations.

GUIDELINES FOR STUDENTS WHO PARTICIPATE IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

1st	Student and parent attend a mandatory meeting with a school administrator and

Offense	coach or activity sponsor. Suggested: Suspension from 2 weeks or 2 events/contests Continue participation in all practice sessions. Any student elected or appointed captain or officer of his/her activity will lose the title and position immediately. The student will be eligible to be elected or appointed a captain or officer after a period of one (1) year.
2nd Offense	Student and parent attend a mandatory meeting with a school administrator and coach or activity sponsor. Continue participation in all practice sessions. Suggested: Suspension from events/contests for 90 calendar days Any student elected or appointed captain or officer of his/her activity will lose the title and position immediately. The student will be eligible to be elected or appointed a captain or officer after a period of one (1) year.
3rd Offense	Permanent loss of the privilege to participate in all extracurricular activities. Student may request reinstatement of the privilege to participate in extracurricular activities after a period of one (1) calendar year from the date of the last offense, if student completes a counseling program approved by the administration.

Before any consequence is imposed on a student with an IEP or 504 Plan, it will be discussed with the student's child study team or 504 Committee and be in accordance with the considerations applicable.

INFORMATION THAT WILL TRIGGER AN OFFENSE AND THE RESULTING CONSEQUENCES UNDER THIS POLICY:

Springfield School District has a responsibility to ensure that it takes action under this Policy based upon reliable information only. Accordingly, the following information will trigger an offense and the resulting consequences under this Policy:

1. An Official Police Report (from Springfield Township Police Department or any other law enforcement agency) identifying a student involved in any offense covered by this Policy. When such an Official Police Report is received, the resulting consequences under this Policy will be considered and applied only after reasonable efforts are made to confer with the law enforcement agency about the offense. In accordance with the law, the Official Police Report may become part of the student's official record. Otherwise, the offense covered by this Policy and the consequences of that offense will not become part of the student's official record. However, a supplementary school procedure shall be developed to keep track of student offenses for the purpose of determining repetitive offense histories.

2. Any other reliable but non-anonymous information, which includes but may not be limited to the following:

    a. A signed written complaint from a non-anonymous source other than a law enforcement agency, together with supporting photographic or video evidence. The complaint and supporting evidence will not become part of the student's official record. Similarly, the offense covered by this Policy and the consequences of that offense will not become part of the student's official record. However, a supplementary school procedure shall be developed to keep track of student offenses for the purpose of determining repetitive offense histories; or

    b. An admission of a student that he or she was involved in any offense covered by this policy.

Any anonymous information received will be shared with the student's parents or guardians, but in and of itself will not trigger any consequences called for under this Policy or become part of the student's official record. Any anonymous information received that implicates the health, safety or welfare of any student, staff or other member of the school community (e.g., bomb scare; weapon, potential suicide, etc.) shall otherwise be responded to immediately and appropriately.

SCHOOL PROCEDURES:

Whenever a report comes to the attention of any member of the Springfield School District, it shall be reported to the Principal. Such reports will be timely reviewed by the Principal. The sponsor (coach or advisor) of the activity or activities in which the student participates shall be informed. The student and parent shall be notified, and the student shall have a chance to present any evidence on his/her behalf. The decision of the Principal will be the final determination of a violation. The Principal shall notify the student, parent and the sponsor of the final determination and consequence. The sponsor of the activity will meet with the student involved. The appropriate consequence will be implemented immediately.

Definitions

Extracurricular Activities - Extracurricular participants include students involved in any extra school activities.

Additional Leadership/Participation Activities subject to the heightened standard:
All sports, including interscholastic and club (but not intramural); Student Council; Peer Leaders; National Honor Society (in addition to the requirements of its national charter); Student Representatives to the BOE; students who participate in an activity to which they must apply and be accepted or are appointed; all elected or appointed officers of a club or activity; performance groups (music, including singing, dance, instrumental, drama, school shows, and plays).

Designated Driver - an individual, that did not take part in or attend an event, that was called upon to safely transport participants in question home, shall not be considered part of the compliment of individuals involved in the offending inappropriate behavior.

Drugs and Alcohol - Drugs include all dangerous controlled substances as defined in Pennsylvania law, or the law of any other state where the event occurred, or as defined in federal law. **Alcohol** refers to any commercially sold product usually provided through taverns, bars, nightclubs, casinos, and commercial liquor stores designed for alcoholic consumption that would be covered under the Pennsylvania state definition of alcoholic beverages.

In-Season - the "season" starts with the first day of practice or participation and ends with the last contest, meeting or practice, whichever is the later date. When a participant is suspended for the number of events indicated, the participant may not perform in the activity until the suspension is completed. Depending on the level of consequence, the student must still report to practice, may dress and be in or around the bench area; may travel with the team; and may still participate in all ways other than to actually play or perform in the event/game.

Out-of-season - encompasses the remainder of the year, which is not "in season."

Official Police Report - as provided in Pennsylvania law, or any other state law where the event occurred, law enforcement is permitted to inform a school principal of certain incidents involving a student. For purposes of this policy, the following will trigger a violation: (a) a juvenile reported and/or charged by law enforcement with an offense covered by this policy; (b) adjudication or disposition of a covered charge; (c) a student taken into custody for an offense covered by this policy.

Classification of Extracurricular Events - a list of all extracurricular events shall be developed by the Middle School and High School administrative teams to be as inclusive as possible. These events will be classified as minor events or major events by the student councils of E. T. Richardson Middle School and Springfield High School. This list will be reviewed periodically by the administration and the student leaders and updated as appropriate.

Delegation of Responsibility

COMMUNICATION OF THE POLICY TO STUDENTS AND PARENTS:

This policy is to be clearly communicated to all students and parents in the Springfield School District through the following:

1. The policy shall be posted on the Springfield School District Website.
2. The policy will be published in the Springfield High School handbook in its entirety – with a summary statement included on the back cover of the handbook - each year.
3. The policy will be published in the ET Richardson Middle School handbook each year.
4. The Springfield School District building administrative teams and/or guidance counselors shall review this Policy with all new students entering the Springfield School District at the Middle School and High School levels.
5. The policy shall be mailed home to all Springfield School District students after adoption by the Board of Education and annually before the start of school each year.
6. The policy will be distributed to all Springfield School District activity sponsors for inclusion in their respective handbooks and other printed materials.
7. The policy remains in place until changed, but is subject to periodic review by the Springfield School District Board of Education Policy Committee which may seek and receive input from students, parents, administrators, and the broader community as it sees fit.

This online posting is an electronic copy from Springfield School District's manual of currently adopted policies. The policies on this site are for informational purposes only and do not reflect updating activities in progress. It may be used for information and reference purposes only regarding issues of concern. Certified date-stamped copies are available from the District Open Records Officer and are valid for issues of concern within two (2) weeks of the stamped date.