

JAMES BAY LOWLANDS SECONDARY SCHOOL BOARD
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ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE GENERAL ADMINISTRATION: NO. 225	
Effective	August 21, 2019
Last Revised	June 30, 2023

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STUDENT DRUG EDUCATION DRUGS, CANNABIS, ALCOHOL, AND TOBACCO

PURPOSE

The Ontario Ministry of Education encourages school boards to take a comprehensive approach to student health outcomes, and has developed *Foundations for a Healthy School* to guide this work. Elevating well-being as a goal for education in Ontario recognizes its fundamental importance to learners and their futures.

This administrative procedure supports programs that help prevent substance abuse among students, and that reinforce student decisions not to use these substances.

In addition, the staff will use early intervention procedures, and communicate them to all students and parents. When required, disciplinary action will be taken, in accordance with Board policy and administrative procedures.

PROCEDURES

1. Curriculum Focus

- 1.1. Administrators and teachers will continue to develop, review, and revise curricula for all students to assist in the promotion of positive health behaviours and to discourage alcohol, tobacco, cannabis, and drug abuse.
- 1.2. The board will provide professional learning opportunities to address identified areas of need in the school, and will encourage the staff to develop a wide repertoire of instructional strategies for use in the classroom and school with respect to substance use/misuse, addictions, and related behaviours.
- 1.3. The preventive education initiative will be implemented in physical and health education classes and integrated into other subject areas as appropriate.
- 1.4. Prevention includes interventions that seek to prevent or delay the onset of substance use and address root causes of use.

2. The Preventive Curriculum

- 2.1. The James Bay Lowlands Secondary School Board partners with community agencies and organizations to support a comprehensive awareness, prevention, and

intervention strategy that prohibits the use of alcohol, tobacco, cannabis, and other drugs on school grounds.

- 2.2. The school prevention strategy provides a framework for learning about prevention of substance use through the delivery of a comprehensive curriculum, grades 9-12.

3. Teaching Strategies

- 3.1. The Ministry document, *Foundations for a Healthy School*, includes strategies and activities related to:

- comprehensive tobacco control
- living skills (e.g., adaptive and coping skills, communication skills)
- prevention of substance misuse
- promotion of healthy alternatives to harmful substances and addictive behaviours
- recognition and prevention of addictive behaviour

- 3.2. Examples of strategies include:

- a) supporting students in making cross-curricular connections between personal choices related to substance use/misuse and potential outcomes, including exploration of the positive effects of improved mental health on at-risk behaviours;
- b) providing multiple and varied opportunities for students to demonstrate understanding of the risks associated with tobacco, alcohol, cannabis, and drug use;
- c) applying learning related to substance use and addictions by identifying and discussing topics relevant to the diverse backgrounds of students in the school;
- d) integrating adaptive strategies (e.g., resiliency building, positive refocusing, positive reappraisal) into lessons to help students develop coping and refusal skills; and
- e) developing discussion groups to identify emerging trends and/or key issues related to substance use/ misuse and/or addictions, and identifying the supports needed in the school.

4. Home, School, and Community Partnerships

- 4.1. This administrative procedure recognizes the responsibility shared by the school, home, and community at large to establish fundamental values and standards of behaviour. The school's role is to complement and support family responsibilities by promoting respect for self and others among students, and to advocate for supportive environments and processes that reduce the impact and influence of harmful substances on youth.

- 4.2. The school will create opportunities for educators to collaborate on identifying areas where and times when use of substances (e.g., tobacco, alcohol, cannabis) may be

more likely to occur, to develop school-based strategies to address key concerns, and to monitor and review the impact of the strategies over time.

- 4.3. The school will establish and maintain resources in the school to access current information on community supports that are available for use by students, parents, school staff, and the broader school community.
- 4.4. The school will facilitate and support comprehensive substance control strategies (including prevention, cessation, protection and enforcement) with community partners (e.g., public health units, not-for-profit organizations).

REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

Legal:

Education Act, Section 169.1 (1) Board Duties and Powers: Promote Student Achievement and Well-Being

Education Act: Section 265 Duties of Principal: Care of Pupils

Ontario Ministry of Education. (2013) *The K–12 School Effectiveness Framework*.

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/literacynumeracy/framework.html>

Ontario Ministry of Education (2014) *Foundations for a Healthy School: A Companion Resource to the K-12 School Effectiveness Framework*.

www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/healthyschools/resourceF4HS.pdf

Cannabis Act

Controlled Drugs and Substances Act

Smoke Free Ontario Act

Ontario Ministry of Education. (2018) *Cannabis Information for Schools and School Boards*. www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/healthyschools/cannabis-fact-sheet-en.pdf

Board:

Board Policy GOV-01 Values, Vision, and Mission

Board Policy GOV-20 Safe School Environment

Board Policy GOV-21 Appeals and Hearings Regarding Student Discipline

Board Policy GOV-22 Ontario North East Region Police/School Board Protocol

Administrative Procedure 110 Alcohol and Illegal Drugs on Board Property

Administrative Procedure 111 Smoking on Board Property

Administrative Procedure 317 Opioid Overdose Response Plan

Administrative Procedure 377 School Supports for Student Behaviour

Administrative Procedure 379 Progressive Discipline

Administrative Procedure 381 Student Suspension

Administrative Procedure 382 Student Expulsion

School Code of Student Conduct