

## SUBSTANCE ABUSE & POSSESSION

The School Board and staff of RSU 16 support a safe and healthy learning environment for students that is free of the detrimental effects of drugs and alcohol. Accomplishing this goal requires a cooperative effort among school staff, students, parents, law enforcement and organizations concerned with the use of drugs and alcohol by school-aged youth.

In order to promote the safety, health and well-being of students, the School Board endorses a three-pronged approach to address the issue of drug and alcohol use; prevention/education; intervention and discipline. The Superintendent is responsible for developing appropriate administrative procedures, curricula and programs to implement this policy.

**A. Prevention/Education**

RSU 16 will provide students with appropriate information and activities focused on educating students about drugs and alcohol and preventing their use. Programs shall teach students that the use of drugs and alcohol is wrong and harmful; how to resist peer pressure; and address the legal, social and health consequences of drug and alcohol abuse.

**B. Intervention**

RSU 16 will establish a team approach to intervene with students with drug/alcohol problems. Students will be assisted in addressing their drug/alcohol problems and in continuing their educational program. Students will be provided with information and referral, if necessary, to aid them in obtaining assistance from appropriate community organizations. Student records concerning such interventions shall be kept confidential as required by state and federal laws.

**C. Prohibited Conduct**

No student shall distribute, dispense, possess, use or be under the influence of any alcoholic beverage, malt beverage, fortified wine or other intoxicating liquor. Nor shall a student manufacture, distribute, dispense, possess, use or be under the influence of "bath salts;" any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana, anabolic steroid; any other controlled substance defined in federal and state laws/regulations; any look-alike substance; or any substance that is represented to be a controlled substance.

These prohibitions apply to any student who is on school property, who is in attendance at school or at any school-sponsored activity, or whose conduct at any time or place directly interferes with the operations, discipline or general welfare of the school.

**D. Disciplinary Action**

Principals may suspend and/or recommend expulsion of students who violate this policy, based upon the facts of each case and in accordance with established disciplinary procedures. Students may also be referred to law enforcement authorities for investigation and/or prosecution.

**E. Policy Communication**

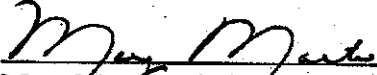
RSU 16 shall distribute this policy and appropriate related information to staff, students and parents on an annual basis through handbooks and/or other means selected by the Superintendent and building administrators.

Legal References:	21 USC § 812 (Controlled Substances Act)
	21 CFR Part 1300.11-15
	P.L. 101-226 (Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989)
	17-A MRSA § 1101
	22 MRSA §§ 2390-2394
	42 USC § 290dd-2
	42 CFR § 2.1 et seq.
	20-A MRSA §§ 1001(9); 4008


RSU #16 (Mechanic Falls, Minot, Poland) msmv  
Policy Code: JICH  
Adopted: August 2004  
Revised: April 2012; November 2014 April 2021

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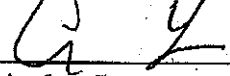
RSU 16 School Board

  
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Mary Martin, Chair


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Joe Parent, Vice Chair

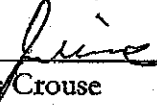
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Arleena Stotts  
  
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Ed Rabasco, Jr.  
  
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Kelsey Eatle  
  
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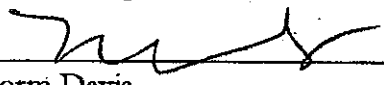
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Mike Downing  
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Mike Lacasse  
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Norm Beauparlant  
  
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Steve Holbrook  
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Travis Ritchie  
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