



# DRUG FREE ATMOSPHERE POLICY- AT A GLANCE



## THE BASICS:

Students who are caught under the influence, in possession of and/or trafficking substances (legal or illegal) on school time are subject to immediate suspension of a maximum of 10 school days for the first offence and a potential expulsion for a repeated offence based on the decision of a WQSB Discipline Committee hearing.

## "ON SCHOOL TIME"

This is a time frame that is unique to all students. School time begins the moment that the student steps on the bus in the morning and ends as soon as they get off the bus in the afternoon. For students walking or getting dropped off, school time begins when the student steps onto the property in the morning and ends as soon as they leave the property at the end of the school day. School time also includes all school related activities held outside of regular school hours (trips, dances, sports games...).

## "PARAPHERNALIA"

Tools, equipment and/or products that are used, made, or modified to use, conceal or distribute substances. This includes user-specific products and dealer specific products.

## "SUBSTANCE/DRUG"

Drugs are substances that, when taken in or administered into one's system, affect mental processes; changing the way you THINK, ACT & FEEL. Psychoactive drugs belong to a broader category of psychoactive substances that also include alcohol and nicotine.

### UNDER THE INFLUENCE

This is determined when a student has consumed a substance and its effects on **school time** have changed the student's thoughts, feelings and actions, regardless of how and when the substance was consumed.



### IN-POSSESSION OF...

This is when it is discovered that the student has a substance and/or **paraphernalia** in their "possession" (pockets, shoes, backpacks, lockers, etc) on **school time**.



### TRAFFICKING

This is when it is discovered that the student is distributing, exchanging or dealing substances and/or paraphernalia on **school time**.



## CONSEQUENCES:

Consequences are the actions taken when a student has been in violation of any of the above mentioned infractions: under the influence, possession, trafficking. Please note that each school/centre applies these consequences according to their school/centre's individual Code of Conduct.

### SUSPENSION

The student may be suspended from the school/centre and all activities associated for a maximum of 10 school days.

### DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE

A Discipline Committee hearing will be held in the following situations:

- Second/repeated violation of the policy (under the influence and/or possession)
- Trafficking violation

A decision will be made to determine the student's status to attend WQSB schools.

### EXPULSION

An expulsion is when a student is no longer allowed to attend/access any WQSB school/centre for the remainder of the current academic year. An expulsion is a possible decision made by the Discipline Committee.