

It is essential that schools be safe and orderly to provide environments that foster learning and high academic achievement. The Taylor County School Board and Administration are determined to provide an environment that is drug-free and protect students' health, safety, and civil rights.

The goal emphasizes the personal responsibility of students and the necessity of involving all stakeholders, including parents, in achieving this goal. Although education and prevention are the preferred means of achieving safe schools, there must be a clear statement of policy that violence in schools will not be permitted.

The school district will invoke the most severe consequences provided in the Florida Statute and in the Student Code of Conduct (Discipline Matrix) in dealing with students who engage in violent criminal acts on school property, on school sponsored transportation, at school bus stops, on school buses or during school sponsored activities. Violent criminal acts include, but are not limited to, the following offenses:

- Homicide (murder, manslaughter)
- Sexual Battery
- Armed Robbery
- Aggravated Battery
- Battery or aggravated battery on a teacher or other school personnel
- Kidnapping or abduction
- Arson
- Possession or use of a firearm or other weapon
- Possession or use of any explosive device

1006.13. (2) The zero tolerance policy shall require students found to have committed one of the following offenses to be expelled, with or without continuing educational services, from the student's regular school for a period of no less than one (1) full year and to be referred to the criminal justice or juvenile justice system.

Bringing a firearm or weapon, as defined in Chapter 790, to school, to any school function, or onto any school sponsored transportation, or possessing a firearm at school. Making a threat of false report, as defined by ss.790.162 and 790.163, respectively, involving school or school personnel's property, school transportation or a school sponsored activity.

Federal legislation has been passed as part of the war on drugs. This legislation is intended to convey to students of any institution receiving federal funds (contracts, grants, student financial aid, etc.) the health risks which exist for those who abuse alcohol or drugs. In addition, penalties for those who violate school standards must be in place and consistently enforced. State law prohibits the consumption and/or

possession of alcoholic beverages by persons younger than 21 years of age. The sale of alcoholic beverages to persons younger than 21 years of age is also prohibited.

Standards of conduct and disciplinary sanctions to be imposed for the unlawful possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by TTI students on school property or as part of any of its activities will be enforced. The unlawful manufacture, distribution, possession or use of controlled substance or the unlawful possession and use of alcohol is wrong, harmful, and prohibited in or on Taylor County Public School owned and controlled property or as part of any of its activities.

Any TTI student determined to have violated this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action for misconduct. No student is to report to class or any school activity while under the influence of illegal drugs or alcohol. Violation of these policies by a student will be reason for disciplinary action up to and including termination/expulsion, and/or referral for prosecution consistent with local, state, and federal law. Source of text: Schools Without Drugs, U.S. Department of Education.

Student Notification—

The use of illicit drugs and the unlawful possession and the use of alcohol are wrong and harmful. The illegal use, possession, or sale of alcoholic beverages or controlled substances, as defined in Chapter 893, or possession of electronic telephone pagers by any student while such a student is upon school property or in attendance at a school function is grounds for suspension, expulsion, or imposition of other disciplinary action by the school, and may result in criminal penalties being imposed.

Policies concerning the use, possession, or sale of alcoholic beverages or controlled substances as defined in Chapter 893, or possession of electronic telephone pagers will be included in the code of student conduct to be distributed annually to all teachers, school personnel, students, and parents or guardians at the beginning of each school year.

The following words and phrases shall have the following meanings, unless the text requires otherwise:

- “Alcoholic beverages” means distilled spirits and all beverages containing one-half of one percent of alcohol by volume.
- “Drugs” means cannabis, the seed thereof, and the resin extracted from any part of the plant, narcotics, barbiturates and related sedatives, cocaine, hallucinogens, amphetamines, minor and major tranquilizers, and any other drug that is listed as a substance in Chapter 893, Florida Statutes. Drugs also include, and by definition mean prescription drugs, over the counter drugs, diet pills, vitamin, stimulants such as “No Doze”, and the various mail order caffeine stimulants that are shaped to look like various prescription amphetamines.
- “Sale” means the actual constructive, or attempted transfer from one person to another for any consideration whatsoever.
- “Giving” means the actual constructive, or attempted transfer from one person to another without remuneration whatsoever.
- “Second Offense” means any second offense during a given school year while in membership in Taylor County Schools.

- “Controlled Substance” means any substance named or described in Schedule I through V of Florida Statutes 893.03. Laws controlling the manufacture, distribution, preparation, or administration of substance are drug abuse law.

Any student who sells, gives, possesses, uses, or is under the influence of any alcoholic beverage, counterfeit, controlled substance and/or drugs, on the school grounds, or at any school sponsored activity shall be suspended for 10 days and may be recommended for expulsion from school for the remainder of the school year. However, if the incident occurs within the last nine weeks, the student may also be expelled for all or a portion of the next school year. The School Board may require a determined number of hours of community work experience and mandatory school probation in lieu of expulsion for all or a portion of the next school year. Any second offense may result in a recommendation to the School Board for expulsion with no waiver. Any student recommended for expulsion under this policy shall have a mandatory hearing before the School Board.

Any student who is subject to discipline or expulsion for unlawful possession, use, or for being under the influence of any alcoholic beverage or a substance controlled under Chapter 893 shall be entitled to a waiver of the discipline or expulsion.

The appropriate law enforcement agency shall be notified immediately in each instance where a student is found in violation of this policy.

All students are prohibited from smoking, using or from having any form of tobacco products in their possession on school property or at any school activity and notices to that effect shall be posted.

Tobacco items will be confiscated on the first offense. The second offense shall require a one day suspension or completion of a 2 hour tobacco education program. , the third offense shall require a one to three day suspension and completion of a 6 hour tobacco education program with cessation resources outlined, the fourth offense will require the student be dropped from their program.

- (1) No employee shall possess, consume or sell alcoholic beverages or manufacture, distribute, dispense, possess, use or be under the influence of, on the job or in the workplace, any narcotic, drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana or any other controlled substance, as defined by regulations at 21 CFR 12001.11 through 1300.15 or Florida Statutes, Chapter 893.
- (2) (2) The Taylor County School Board bans any synthetic drug such as bath salts, synthetic marijuana, and any substance that mimics methamphetamine. The ban prohibits the use, possession or distribution of these substances on school grounds.
- (3) “Workplace” is defined as the site for the performance of work done in connection with the rules of an employee of the District. That term includes any place where the work of the district is performed, including a school building or other school premises, any district-owned vehicle or any other activities, off-school property during any school-sponsored or school-approved activity, event or function, such as a field trip, workshop or athletic event.
- (4) As a condition of employment, each employee will:
 - (a) Abide by the terms of this policy;
 - (b) Submit to drug testing, when and if the Taylor County School System has reasonable suspicion, upon returning to work as a part of determining fitness for duty and for follow-up testing to the Employee Assistance Program; and

(c) Notify the Superintendent or designee of any criminal drug statute arrest or conviction for a violation occurring on the premises of the district, at the workplace, or during the conduct of any official activity related to the district within forty-eight (48) hours. Professional employees must be in compliance with 6.30(2).

(5) The district shall:

(a) Notify the appropriate agency within ten (10) days after receiving such notice from an employee or otherwise receiving actual notice of such conviction; and

(b) Take one of the following actions, within thirty (30) days of receiving such notice, with respect to any employee who is so convicted:

1. Require such an employee to participate satisfactorily in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved for such purposes by a federal, state, or local health, law enforcement, or other appropriate agency; or

2. If the employee fails to participate satisfactorily in such program, the employee may be non-renewed or his/her employment may be suspended or terminated, at the discretion of the Superintendent or designee; or

3. Take appropriate personnel action against such an employee, up to and including termination.

(c) Offer assistance and information on drug abuse in order to maintain an alcohol and a drug-free workplace. Employee assistance will be available through the Personnel Department and the Employee Assistance Program. The district shall also conduct periodic workshops on drug and alcohol abuse in the workplace to inform employees of the dangers of substance abuse and of the provisions in this policy.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 893.01, 1001.41, 1012.22, 1012.23, 1012.27, F. S.

LAWS IMPLEMENTED: 1001.41, 1001.43, 1012.795, F. S.

DRUG FREE WORKPLACE ACT OF 1988; CFR PART 85, SUBPART F TAYLOR COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD