

October 19, 2015

Dear Parents:

Thank you for your letter expressing concerns regarding the statements made by a recent political candidate regarding the prevalence of marijuana and other drugs in our school system.

I would like to assure you that marijuana and other illicit drug use is not condoned in our schools, and in fact there are serious consequences for possession or sale of banned substances such as drugs or alcohol. I've attached District Policy 502.4 Regulation as evidence of that.

Our students are not of legal age, and our duty as a school system is to protect them from the use of substances that may cause them harm. If they choose to bring illegal substances on school property and it comes to the school's attention, consequences include informing parents, possible suspension from school and mandatory drug counseling.

Despite this, some of our older students choose to use drugs. They can likely find a way to obtain those drugs through the social networks among their friends and schoolmates. However, this doesn't mean that the school condones or tolerates this behavior or allows it on school property.

Canadian law states that children under the age of 19 are considered minors and should not be in possession of alcohol (a controlled legal substance). Our school system upholds that law, and certainly does not allow student possession of illegal substances such as marijuana.

I sincerely hope that you find this information useful and informative.



Monica Pamer, EdD  
Superintendent of Schools