



Policy of the American International School, Israel

STUDENTS

Policy Number: 4.165

Subject: Substance Abuse Policy

Policy Statement

The staff, students and parents of the American International School, Israel, strive to promote a healthy lifestyle consistent with AIS stated objectives. The use of alcohol and non-prescription drugs or other illicit and/or addictive substances by students is considered inconsistent with such a lifestyle and objectives. There is a no tolerance attitude toward the use of any illicit substance as outlined below. It is the school's firm conviction that substance use and/or abuse is potentially dangerous emotionally and physically and, therefore, totally inappropriate to our school and a student may be subject to expulsion if found in violation of this policy.

It is important that all members of the AIS community work to enhance the school's reputation. Therefore, students are expected to respect and abide by local legal regulations, including those related to illegal substance abuse.

A. POLICY

- I. **School Related Substance Abuse:** No student, regardless of age shall possess, give, receive, purchase, sell, or distribute any illicit drug or alcohol, or consume, or be under the influence of any illicit drug or alcohol in any of the following instances:
 - a. on school property
 - b. on a school bus
 - c. during the course of any school-sponsored activity such as an athletic contest, field trip, or social functions.

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Illicit substances include but are not limited to the following: heroine, amphetamines, barbiturates, marijuana, hashish, cocaine, hallucinogens, steroids, inhalants, psychoactive non-prescription drugs, and other mind altering drugs.

The Substance Abuse Policy shall not pertain to any drug prescribed for the specific student use or consumption by a licensed medical practitioner.

- II **Use of and/or distribution of Illicit Substances Outside of School:** No student shall provide or purchase any illicit substances to/from any other individual outside of school. In cases where student use of illicit substance outside of school comes to the attention of school officials, parents will be notified and the student cautioned. If the administration determines that student behaviors are detrimental to the health, safety, welfare, and/or the good name of AIS, the student may be subject to school disciplinary action as outlined in Article I of the Consequences Section below.
- III **Drug Related Criminal Actions:** In any case where a WBAIS student is arrested for, charged with, or convicted of illegal possession, use, or distribution of drugs or drug-related paraphernalia, the administration reserves the right to make its own inquiry of such accusations and/or offenses and to subject that student to disciplinary action.
- IV **Admission of New Students:** The School Administration will request information from prospective students and their parents inquiring about any history of drug use or other drug-connected activity on his/her part. In cases where prior drug use or other drug-connected activity has been significant, admission to the school may be denied. If the school learns that information was insufficient or inaccurate, the school may revoke the admission or apply disciplinary action.

B. CONSEQUENCES

- I. Any student who violates the drug portion of the WBAIS Substance Abuse Policy set forth in Articles A-I and A-II of the Policies Section will be subject to a minimum five (5) day suspension from school. In addition, the administration may determine appropriate penalties that may include but are not limited to expulsion (a complete severance of the student's relationship with the school), extended suspension, community service, social probation, mandated counseling, and/or substance abuse education. Any student who violates the alcohol portion of the WBAIS Substance Abuse Policy set forth in Article A-I shall be subject to a minimum two (2) day suspension from school. In addition, the administration may determine other appropriate penalties as outlined in Article B-I.
- II. In cases where students are suspended, the following guidelines will be followed:
 - I. The student will not be allowed on campus at any time during or after the school day, including weekends, and will be prohibited from any co-curricular activities, either on or off campus.
 - 2. Students will be allowed to make up any missed work. The school, where possible, will assist in obtaining the necessary information to do this work; however, it will be the student's ultimate responsibility to make the necessary arrangements.

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C. C **PROCEDURES**

I. **Sufficiency of Evidence:** The Administration should be convinced beyond a reasonable doubt that a violation has taken place before any disciplinary action is initiated. Any student may be questioned by the administration, counselor, school nurse or staff regarding any suspected violation of the School's Substance Abuse Policy by the student, or by any other student. All questioning shall be conducted in an atmosphere of mutual respect.

II **Drug Testing and Reasonable Search:** In any case in which the Administration has reasonable cause for suspicion regarding student drug use, that student may be required to submit a sample for urine, or undertake a breathalyzer test, as a condition of said student's continued attendance at the school. In such cases, parents will be first notified that testing is required. Refusal by a student to readily submit to testing may jeopardize his/her continued enrollment in VBALS. The school also reserves the right to conduct reasonable searches of students' lockers, property, and persons when such suspicion exists.

In addition, the administration reserves the right to randomly test students periodically during the school year after first notifying parents

Should testing confirm that a student has used drugs, the student, his/her parents, and school officials will meet to develop a plan to address the student's drug use. The plan shall include mandatory outside counseling and may require future drug testing at specific intervals or at random. A student for whom testing confirms drug use a second time will be subject to the consequences described in Section B-I above.

III. **Notification to Parents:** Immediately upon determining that any student has violated any provision of the School's Substance Abuse Policy, the Administration will contact the parents and discuss with them the offense before disciplinary action is taken. If the parents are unavailable, temporary disciplinary action may be taken until the Administration is able to contact and meet with the parents.

IV. **School Records: All** records of the school's disciplinary actions under this policy will be retained in the student's file until permanent departure from the school, at which time they will be expunged. In cases of expulsion, the reason for withdrawal will be noted as "other" on the student's transcript.

V. **Appeals:** Appeals to the Superintendent: Any parent and/or student dissatisfied with a determination by the Administration to the effect that the student has violated the school's substance abuse policies, or dissatisfied with the disciplinary action initiated, may request a hearing before the school Superintendent to review the facts of the case, to present any new relevant information, and to make any arguments or offer any evidence which would contradict the validity of the Administration's decision. This appeal must be requested in writing within ten (10) days after notice of the initiation of disciplinary action. Any parent or student's allegations of abuse or improper conduct on the part of the school official investigating the case shall be made at this time. The Superintendent will respond in writing to such appeal within three (3) days of the hearing, with a copy to the School Board.

VI. **Appeals to the School Board:** If, following an appeal to the Superintendent, a parent or student wants to further appeal that decision to the School Board, s/he will notify the School Board in writing of his/her

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intention within five (5) days following receipt of the Superintendent's decision. (It should be noted that in the case of any suspensions from school of five (5) days or less, such penalties are not subject to Board appeal.) The appeal may be made in writing and/or in a hearing before the School Board, if requested. The hearing, which the Administration will attend, will take place within ten (10) days of receipt of a written request. At any such hearing the appealing party shall be entitled to produce such evidence or witnesses, as s/he deems appropriate. The Board's decision will be final and will be conveyed by the Chairperson or designate to the parents within five (5) days of the hearing.

- VII. **Admission of Substance Abuse:** The Administration, faculty, counselors and board should encourage students who feel they may have a substance abuse problem to come forward and support their efforts to seek help. Depending on the circumstances, penalties for violation of this policy may or may not be applied in such cases.
- VIII. **Acknowledgment of Receipt:** As a condition of enrollment or continued enrollment, each student in grade six or above, and a parent or legal guardian of all students, must acknowledge in writing that they have received and read a copy of this policy.

Cross-references: 2.135 (Alcohol & Tobacco on Campus), 4.175 (Support Services)

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Walworth Barbour American International School

**Student/Parent Agreement
Substance Abuse Policy**



I. After having read the **WBAIS Substance Abuse Policy**, parents and students are required to sign and return this form. Please note that parents will be notified in all cases prior to any substance abuse testing, be it individual or random. Signing this form indicates a commitment to abide by said policies, penalties, and procedures.

a. Does the student have a history of illegal drug usage? Yes No

b. Has the student ever been subject to school disciplinary action for use of illegal drugs or alcohol or has he/she been subject to any criminal prosecution for possession, use, or sale of drugs or drug paraphernalia?

Yes No

If yes, please give details including school, date, drugs involved, school's disciplinary action, criminal charges, and disposition of case. (Use back of form if more room is needed)

This student statement form must be signed by parents and students in grades 5-8 and returned with registration or application forms.

Signing this form indicates a commitment to abide by the **WBAIS Substance Abuse Policy.**

Signature of Student

Signature of Parent

Date

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