

Policy 5340 (a)

Students

Psychotropic Drug Use

The Board of Education believes that the use of psychotropic drugs for students is a personal decision to be made by a student's parents or legal guardian. School personnel shall not make any recommendations concerning the use of prescribed psychotropic drugs for any child.

Psychotropic drugs are defined as prescription medications for behavioral or social-emotional concerns, such as attentional deficits, impulsivity, anxiety, depression and thought disorders and includes, but is not limited to stimulant medications and anti-depressants.

This policy is not intended to prohibit school health or mental health personnel including school nurses or nurse practitioner, the District's Medical Advisor, school psychologists, school social workers and school counselors from recommending that a child be evaluated by an appropriate medical practitioner, nor does it prohibit school personnel from consulting with an appropriate medical practitioner with the consent of a student's parent or guardian.

The District shall follow procedures for identification, evaluation, placement and delivery of services to children with disabilities or suspected disabilities provided in state and federal statutes that govern special education.

The Superintendent or his/her designee shall be responsible for the implementation of this policy and for ensuring its dissemination to school personnel.

The Board recognizes that under state law the refusal of a parent or other person having control of a child to administer or consent to the administration of any psychotropic drug to such child shall not, in and of itself, constitute grounds for the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to take such child into custody or for any court of competent jurisdiction to order that such child be taken into custody by DCF, unless such refusal causes such child to be neglected or abused, as defined in section 46b-120 of the General Statutes.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes
 10-212b Policies prohibiting the recommendation of psychotropic drugs
 by school personnel. (as amended by PA 03-211)

 46b-120. Definitions

 10-76a Definitions. (as amended by PA 00-48)

 10-76b State supervision of special education programs and services.

 10-76d Duties and powers of boards of education to provide special education
 programs and services. (as amended by PA 97-114 and PA 00-48)

Policy 5340 (b)

Students

Psychotropic Drug Use (continued)

10-76h Special education hearing and review procedure. Mediation of disputes. (as amended by PA 00-48)

State Board of Education Regulations.

34 C.F.R. 3000 Assistance to States for Education for Handicapped Children.

American with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §12101 et seq.
Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. §1400 et seq.
Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504, 29 U.S.C. § 794.

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WATERFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Waterford, Connecticut