

East Central Catholic Schools is committed to providing a safe environment for students, employees and visitors. All ECCS buildings, school grounds, vehicles, off-site school activities and school buses owned or contracted by the division shall be alcohol, tobacco, cannabis, illicit drug and inhalant free environments.

Definitions

1. "Illicit Drug" means any drug or substance that is not legally obtainable and whose use, sale, possession, purchase or transfer is prohibited by law (for example, street drugs such as heroin and cocaine).
2. "Controlled Drug" means any drug or substance whose importation, exportation, production, sale or possession is controlled and regulated pursuant to the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act*. This includes alcohol, cannabis and any product containing cannabis in any form and tobacco and vaping.

Background

The Board recognizes that illicit drugs or the illicit use of controlled drugs is a criminal offence and that all persons in a school are expected to act as citizens who support the law.

Despite the recreational consumption and availability to persons 18 years of age and older, the Board recognizes that the use, consumption, possession, distribution, sale of alcohol, cannabis, tobacco and/or vaping is strictly prohibited from all Division premises and property for individuals of all ages.

Illicit drugs, the illicit use of controlled drugs, cannabis, alcohol and/or tobacco and vaping, during the school day or during school related activities is prohibited.

Procedures

1. The Principal shall
 - 1.1 establish procedures to deal with the possession and/or use of alcohol, tobacco and vaping, controlled drugs, illicit drugs and cannabis, in school or on school property, during school hours or during school related activities.
 - 1.2 ensure that students and employees are made aware of the school's procedures and consequences for any violations.
2. Principals shall ensure that educational programs include components designed to increase students' knowledge of the facts relating to drug and alcohol use and abuse. -
3. Employees observing suspected possession or use of controlled and illicit drugs, cannabis, alcohol, tobacco and vaping shall document the findings and report the

incident to the Principal.

4. After verification of the accuracy of the incident by the school administration, the student may be suspended and the participation of the parents requested in further discussions of the appropriate action to be taken.
5. School officials will cooperate with law enforcement agencies with respect to the surveillance of restricted and illicit drugs on school premises.
6. Should a student be found to be distributing controlled substances, the following actions shall be taken:
 - 6.1 The student shall be reported to police and may be suspended or expelled pending a thorough investigation by school authorities.
7. Student suspensions and expulsions issued under clause 6 will be in accordance with *Administrative Procedure 310 – Suspension and Expulsion of Students* and Sections 31, 197, 36, 37, 53, 52, 222 Education Act
8. The family and the school may wish to provide remedial assistance for the student through support services such as the Family School Liaison Program, AHS Community Addiction and Mental Health, Alberta Family and Community Support Services, Alberta Health and Wellness, Children's Services and Alcoholics Anonymous.

Reviewed/Revised: March 2014, April 2016 January 2019 April 2020

Reference: Sections 31, 197, 36, 37, 53, 52, 222 Education Act
AP 355 – STAR Catholic
AP 356 – Wild Rose School Division No. 66
AP 310 – Suspension and Expulsion of Students
AP 305 – Student Conduct
Criminal Code of Canada
Controlled Drugs and Substances Act
Gaming and Liquor Act
Alberta Health Services