

	<p>Drug means any controlled substance or other substance that is used for mind/behavior-altering affects.</p> <p>Paraphernalia means any equipment, product or matter used to store, ingest, inhale, conceal, convert, package, test or transfer a drug.</p> <p>Use means possession or any manner of consumption.</p> <p>Verification means the accuracy of information is confirmed by any of the following methods:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Any coach or supervisor of an extracurricular activity personally observes a substance violation or violation of the Middletown Area School District guidelines.2. Any district administrator or employee personally observes a substance violation or violation of the Middletown Area School District guidelines.3. A police report is provided to the school district outlining a substance violation.4. Notification of a conviction, delinquency findings or other admission of wrongdoing before a court for conduct involving alcohol, drugs or drug paraphernalia.5. A personal confession/self-referral is made by a student of substance use.6. A violation of the guidelines reported by the parent/guardian.7. A positive urinalysis is conducted and confirmed under approved Board policy.8. A refusal to take urine screening test or lab urine tests if said tests are conducted under approved Board policy. <p>Week means seven (7) consecutive days running from Sunday to Saturday.</p> <p>School year means August 1 through the last day of school each year.</p> <p>Calendar year means the period of time between the month and day of one (1) year and the same month and day in the next consecutive year.</p>
--	---

Marking period - If at the end of any marking period a student fails a course/subject or dropped a course/subject to avoid a failing grade, the student will be suspended from participating in all extracurricular activities for fifteen (15) school days. The suspension shall begin on the date report cards are issued. At the end of that suspension, the student's eligibility for extracurricular activities will be reinstated if the student is passing all courses on a weekly basis.

School year - If at the end of any school year a student fails a course/subject or dropped a course/subject to avoid a failing grade, the student will be suspended from participating in all extracurricular activities for fifteen (15) school days at the start of the next school year. If the student successfully makes up that course/subject in summer school, the student will be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities for the start of the school year.

2. 9th – 12th Grade Students:

Students must be passing all but one (1) course/subject at the end of each week, marking period and school year. Students will be subject to the following sanctions for noncompliance:

Week - If at the end of any school week a student has a failing grade in two (2) or more courses, the student will be suspended from participating in all extracurricular activities for one (1) week. The student will be reinstated after the suspension if the student is passing all but one (1) course.

Marking period - If at the end of any marking period a student fails two (2) or more courses/subjects, the student will be suspended from participating in all extracurricular activities for fifteen (15) school days. The suspension shall begin on the date report cards are issued. At the end of that suspension, the student's eligibility for extracurricular activities will be reinstated if the student is passing all but one (1) course on a weekly basis. This will apply to the first, second, and third marking periods only.

School year - If at the end of any school year a student fails two (2) or more course(s)/subjects, the student will be suspended from participating in all extracurricular activities for fifteen (15) school days at the start of the next school year. If the student successfully makes up that course/subject in summer school, the student will be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities for the start of the school year. Courses that were dropped/failed are not able to be made up in summer school. (See following section on Drop/Fail)

<p>Pol. 218</p>	<p>Drop/Fail - A course that has been dropped/failed after the first five (5) weeks of the school year for a first semester or full-year course or after the first five (5) weeks of the second semester for a semester-long course will be considered a failing grade for the purpose of academic eligibility. If a student intends to withdraw from a course, s/he will be required to meet with his/her parent/guardian, school counselor, and/or building principal to discuss the matter and complete the Drop/Fail paperwork. A Drop/Fail will be indicated on the student's report card and transcript. A Drop/Fail may not be made up by taking a replacement course (i.e. taking another course does not change the Drop/Fail status). A Drop/Fail shall count as one (1) failure. Two (2) failures will result in academic ineligibility for the current school year as well as the first fifteen (15) school days at the start of the next school year. No partial credit will be given for a course that is dropped/failed. The student may not make up the course in summer school, tutoring, or correspondence course. No credit will be given for any course not completed.</p> <p><u>Enforcement Of Alcohol And Drug Prohibitions Under The Policy</u></p> <p>The school district can only discipline a student participating in extracurricular activities for drug and/or alcohol offenses that violate this policy, if it is made aware of the student's conduct and it verifies that the policy violation occurred. The school district recognizes that instances may occur where a student may engage in prohibited conduct involving drugs and/or alcohol, but avoids the disciplinary consequences of this policy because school officials were not made aware of the prohibited conduct. The fact that school officials may learn of some student drug/alcohol offenses, but not others, does not constitute selective enforcement of this policy when some students are disciplined and others are not due to a lack of knowledge of unreported offenses.</p> <p>For purposes of enforcing this policy, the school district will only consider a known drug/alcohol offense as violation, if the offense is reported to school officials within three (3) months of its occurrence. If a student drug/alcohol offense occurred more than three (3) months before it was reported to school officials, the offense will be considered untimely reported and no disciplinary actions will be taken for that particular offense.</p> <p><u>Prohibition Against Alcohol And Drugs</u></p> <p>In order to protect the health and safety of students involved in extracurricular activities from the effect of drug use when participating; to lessen the possible peer pressure on participants to use alcohol, drugs, and controlled substances; to inculcate discipline; and to encourage the participants status as a role model among students,</p>
-----------------	--

the Board prohibits any student involved in extracurricular activities, whether it is in season or out of season or during the extracurricular activities designated involvement from possessing, using, distributing or selling any drug, including anabolic steroids, alcohol, or drug paraphernalia. This conduct is prohibited at any time and at any place.

All students participating in extracurricular activities are prohibited from engaging in the following:

1. The possession, use or distribution of alcohol, drugs or related paraphernalia.
2. The possession, use or distribution of a prescriptive drug in a manner inconsistent with the directives of the prescribing physician.

Use/Possession/Distribution Of Alcohol, Drugs Or Paraphernalia

The following sanctions shall be applied to all verified alcohol, drug or related paraphernalia violations of this section:

1. **First Offense:** Suspension from participating in extracurricular activities for thirty (30) calendar days. If a student is not currently involved in an extracurricular activity, the suspension will begin at the start of the next extracurricular activity in which the student is involved. If a student's extracurricular activity ends before the thirty (30) day suspension is completed, the balance of the suspension will carry over to the next extracurricular activity in which the student participates. A student may be permitted to practice at the coach's/advisor's discretion.
2. **Second Offense:** Suspension from all extracurricular activities for sixty (60) calendar days from the date the incident is verified. If a student is not currently involved in an extracurricular activity, the suspension will begin at the start of the next extracurricular activity in which the student is involved. If a student's extracurricular activity ends before the sixty (60) day suspension is completed, the balance of the suspension will carry over to the next extracurricular activity in which the student participates.
3. **Third Offense:** Suspension from all extracurricular activities for one (1) calendar year from the date the incident is verified.
4. **Fourth Offense:** Total prohibition from all extracurricular activities for the remainder of the student's years in the school district.

5. **Mandatory Reporting:** In addition to the penalties listed above, the principal or his/her designee shall report to the police or proper authorities all incidents of use possession and/or distributing of alcohol or drugs and/or paraphernalia that occurs in school or at school-sponsored activities.

Student Assistance Program

In addition to the sanctions specified above, all students violating this section must participate in a Student Assistance Program. An assessment must be completed by a licensed drug and alcohol facility within ten (10) days.

Early Reinstatement And Rehabilitation Program

Students who voluntarily elect to participate in a rehabilitation program and successfully complete this program, including the post-reinstatement requirements set forth below, shall be eligible for early reinstatement from suspensions otherwise imposed under this policy.

Students are eligible to participate in the rehabilitation program for first, second, and third offenses involving the use, possession, or distribution of alcohol, drugs, or paraphernalia levels of infraction in the Prohibition Against Alcohol and Drugs. Students will be offered the opportunity for early reinstatement from their suspension from extracurricular activities after fifteen (15) calendar days for the first offense, thirty (30) calendar days for the second offense, and six (6) months for the third offense.

The student will be offered a rehabilitation program opportunity. Noncompliance with mentoring or student assistance recommendations, after reinstatement in the sport or activity, will result in the balance of the original suspension being applied. The following provisions apply to the rehabilitation program required for early reinstatement:

1. The student must successfully complete a Student Assistance Program referral and assessment, and otherwise complete any treatment/counseling recommendations made through the assessment process.
2. The student will be assigned a mentor in an appropriate sport or activity. The student should meet regularly with the mentor for a period not less than six (6) months for the first offense and one (1) calendar year for the second or third offense.

3. The district is not required to accept drug/alcohol assessment performed by other entities, such as a juvenile probation assessment for treatment or counseling services; a private assessment or treatment service plan initiated by juvenile probation and or the student's parent/guardian as a substitute to the district's Student Assistance Program referral, assessment and treatment/counseling plan.
4. The district will not be responsible to pay the cost for treatment programs recommended by student assistance or outside evaluators.
5. If the penalty imposed is for the use, possession or distribution of controlled substances and/or anabolic steroids, the student must consent to, and otherwise, participate in regularly scheduled drug testing as determined by the administration. The student will be required to be retested before being permitted to participate in any extracurricular activity. The cost for the drug testing will be provided by the district.
6. The student is required to submit a letter or other documentary evidence to the principal verifying the student's progress or completion of the above services prior to reinstatement and/or satisfactory compliance with any recommended counseling or treatment is scheduled to continue after the student's reinstatement.
7. The district administration will determine whether a student has satisfactorily complied with these conditions for early reinstatement to the extracurricular activity.

Investigation And Hearing Process For Alleged Violations

No student shall be suspended from extracurricular activities until his/her building principal verifies that the student violated this policy.

The following procedures apply to reports of alleged violations of this policy:

1. Coaches and advisors shall immediately report alleged violations of this policy to the building principal.
2. The building principal shall investigate reported violations of this policy to determine their credibility.
3. If a report is credible, the building principal shall provide an informal hearing to explain the information to the student, allow the student to respond and ultimately decide whether or not the student should be suspended from extracurricular activities.

4. If the building principal finds the student violated this policy, the student's parents/guardians shall be sent a written notice informing them that the student has been suspended from extracurricular activity and that the decision may be appealed. A copy of that notice shall be provided to the Athletic Director and the applicable coach or advisor.
5. If the parent/guardian appeals the matter, it shall be heard by the Appeals Committee. The Appeals Committee, chaired by a building administrator or designee, shall consist of three (3) members: the Athletic Director and two (2) coaches/advisors not involved in the student's activity. The student's suspension shall continue during an appeal. The Appeals Committee shall review the initial determination to decide if it was based upon lack of evidence.
6. Any Appeals Committee recommendation shall be subject to the final approval of the building principal.

References:

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 510, 511

State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 12.1, 12.4

Steroids – 35 P.S. Sec. 807.1 et seq.

Equal Access Act – 20 U.S.C. Sec. 4071 et seq.

Board Policy – 103, 122, 123, 218, 218.1, 222, 227, 227.1, 227.3, 233, 247, 249