

TO: BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FROM: SUPERINTENDENT

COMMUNICATION NO. 134-2009/10-S
Prepared by the Office of the Superintendent
for Presentation to the Board of Trustees
January 11, 2010

SUBJECT: PROPOSED REVISED BOARD POLICIES (BP): BP 3550 DRUG FREE ENVIRONMENT AND DRUG PREVENTION PROGRAM AND BP 4225 COURSE REPETITION

A. Background

Proposed revisions to board policies (BP) 3550 and 4225 were presented for review and comment at December 14, 2009, meeting.

The policy regarding maintaining a drug free campus (BP 3550) has been updated to comply with federal regulations that require that health risks associated with various drugs be described. A legal reference has been added to the policy regarding course repetition (BP 4225).

Added language is indicated on the attachment by bold, underlined text. No comments have been received regarding the proposed changes.

B. Budget Implications

None.

C. Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve revised board policies 3550 and 4225.

Respectfully submitted,

Jackie L. Fisher, Sr.
Superintendent/President

BP 3550 Drug Free Environment and Drug Prevention Program

Reference:

Drug Free Schools and Communities Act, 20 U.S.C. Section 1145g and 34 C.F.R. Section 86.1 et seq.; Drug Free Workplace Act of 1988, 41 U.S.C. Section 702

The Antelope Valley Community College District shall be known as a “Drug Free” District, and adopt a “Zero” tolerance policy in regards to any schedule I and Schedule II substance deemed unlawful by local, state and federal laws.

The District shall be free from all drugs and from the unlawful possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees.

The unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in all facilities under the control and use of the District.

Use, sale, or possession on campus of, or presence on campus under the influence of, a controlled substance, narcotics, hallucinogenic drugs or substances or any hazardous substance classified as such by Section 108125 of the Health and Safety Code not possessed pursuant to a legal prescription, or any poison classified as such by Schedule D in Section 4160 of the Business and Professions Code is prohibited. (CA ED Code 76033 (d)).

Any student or employee who violates this policy will be subject to disciplinary action **(consistent with local, state, or federal law)**, which may include referral to an appropriate rehabilitation program, suspension, demotion, expulsion, dismissal, or criminal prosecution.

The following are summaries of the major health risks of and common symptoms associated with alcohol and other drug use and abuse. This is not a complete listing but an overview. Each individual will experience the effects of alcohol and other drugs in a slightly different way given his or her tolerance, body size, family history, gender, and other physical and psychological factors. Abuse of alcohol and other drugs can lead to chemical dependency and can be harmful during pregnancy.

Alcohol

Health Risks: Alcohol in moderate amounts causes dizziness, dulling of the senses, impairment of coordination, reflexes, memory and judgment. Increased amounts of alcohol produce staggering, slurred speech, double vision, mood changes and, possibly, unconsciousness. Larger amounts result in death. Alcohol causes damage to the liver, heart and pancreas. It also may lead to malnutrition, stomach irritation, lowered resistance to disease and irreversible brain or nervous system damage.

Symptoms: Glazed eyes, obvious odor, pale and dry skin, broken blood vessels in facial area, slowed motor coordination and enlarged stomach.

Marijuana

Health Risks: Marijuana use leads to a substantial increase in heart rate. It impairs or reduces short-term memory and comprehension, and motivation and cognition are altered. With extended use it can produce paranoia and psychosis. Smoking marijuana damages the lungs and pulmonary system. Marijuana contains more cancer causing agents than tobacco. It also lowers male sex hormones, suppresses ovulation, and causes changes in the menstrual cycle and possibly causes birth defects.

Symptoms: Someone who uses marijuana may laugh inappropriately and have bloodshot eyes, dry mouth and throat, and a tell-tale odor of the drug, a poor sense of timing and increased appetite.

Cocaine and Crack

Health Risks: Cocaine and its derivative crack produce dilated pupils and elevated blood pressure, heart rate, respiratory rate and body temperature. They may also cause insomnia, loss of appetite, tactile hallucinations, paranoia, seizure and death.

Symptoms: Someone using cocaine may experience muscle twitching, panic reactions, anxiety, numbness in hands and feet, loss of weight, a period of hyperactivity followed by a depression, a running or bleeding nose and sustained depression.

Barbiturates

Health Risks: In small doses, barbiturates produce calmness, relaxed muscles and lowered anxiety. Larger doses cause slurred speech, staggering gait and altered perception. Very large doses taken in combination with other central nervous system depressants (e.g., alcohol) cause respiratory depression, coma and sometimes death.

Symptoms: A person who uses barbiturates may have poor muscle control, appear drowsy or drunk, become confused, irritable, inattentive or have slowed reactions.

Amphetamines

Health Risks: Amphetamine use causes increased heart and respiratory rates, elevated blood pressure, and dilated pupils. Larger doses cause rapid or irregular heartbeat, tremors and physical collapse. An amphetamine injection

creates a sudden increase in blood pressure that can result in stroke, high fever and heart failure.

Symptoms: An individual using amphetamines might begin to lose weight, have periods of excessive sweating, and appear restless, anxious, moody and unable to focus. Extended use may produce psychosis, including hallucinations, delusions and paranoia.

Hallucinogens (including PCP, LSD, Mescaline, Peyote, Psilocybin)

Health Risks: PCP, or angel dust, interrupts the part of the brain that controls the intellect and impulsive behavior. PCP blocks pain receptors. Violent episodes, including self-inflicted injuries, are not uncommon. Chronic users report memory loss and speech difficulty. Very large doses produce convulsions, coma, heart and lung failure, or ruptured blood vessels in the brain. LSD, mescaline, peyote, etc. cause dilated pupils, elevated body temperature, increased heart rate and blood pressure, and tremors.

Symptoms: Someone using PCP might appear moody, aggressive or violent. Such an individual may become paranoid and experience hallucinations and have time and body movements slowed. LSD users may experience loss of appetite, sleeplessness, confusion, anxiety and panic. Flashbacks may also occur.

Narcotics (including Heroin, Codeine, Morphine, Opium, Percodan)

Health Risks: Because these narcotics are generally injected, the use of contaminated needles may result in AIDS and hepatitis. Symptoms of overdose include shallow breathing, clammy skin and convulsions. An overdose may result in a coma or even death.

Symptoms: Some signs of narcotic use are euphoria, drowsiness, constricted pupils and nausea. Other symptoms include itchy skin, needle or "track" marks on the arms and legs, nodding, loss of sex drive and appetite. When withdrawing from the drug, sweating, cramps and nausea occur.

The Superintendent/President shall assure that the District distributes annually to each student **and employee** the information required by the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989 and complies with other requirements of the Act.

See Administrative Procedure #3550

Adopted: 11/7/05

Revised: 1/11/10

BP 4225 Course Repetition

Reference:

Title 5, Sections 55040, 55041, 55042, 55044, 58161

Students may repeat repeatable and non-repeatable courses in which substandard grades (less than "C") were earned. Refer to AP 4225 for detailed administrative procedures regarding repeatability.

When course repetition occurs, the permanent academic record shall be annotated in such a manner that all work remains legible, insuring a true and complete academic history.

Under special circumstances, students may repeat courses in which a C or better grade was earned. The special circumstances are defined in administrative procedures.

See Administrative Procedure #4225

Adopted: 2/6/06

Revised: 6/11/07

Revised: 3/10/08

Revised: 1/11/10