

Philosophy

It is the philosophy of the District that the children of Austin deserve to grow and learn in an alcohol- and drug-free school community. In keeping with this belief and with requirements of the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act, the District is implementing a comprehensive alcohol and drug abuse education and prevention plan. The District's goal is to have an alcohol- and drug-free school population.

Components

The District's drug and alcohol abuse education and prevention program is based upon the requirements of the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1986 (Public Law 990-570), as amended by the Crime and Control Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-647), Section 5145. The following are the major components of this program and shall be implemented:

1. Personnel training in alcohol and drug-related issues.
2. Age appropriate alcohol and drug education and prevention curriculum at each grade level (prekindergarten through grade 12).
3. A student assistance program to identify, refer, and provide intervention and counseling services for students.
4. Distribution of information about drug and alcohol counseling, rehabilitation, and reentry programs available to students and employees.
5. Inclusion of mandatory drug and alcohol standards of conduct in discipline policies for students and personnel policies for employees; distribution of these standards to parents, students, and employees.
6. Data gathering to describe the extent of alcohol and drug usage in the schools.
7. Assurance that all required activities convey to students that the use and distribution of illicit drugs and the unlawful possession and use of alcohol are wrong and harmful.
8. Distribution of information to parents and the community regarding the requirements of the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act and the District's actions in response to these requirements.
9. A District advisory council composed of individuals who are parents, teachers, officers of state and local government, medical professionals, representatives of law enforcement agencies, community-based organizations, and other groups with interest or expertise in the field of drug abuse education

and prevention. The District shall consult with the advisory committee to obtain information and input regarding needs and program ideas.

Accountability

The District shall monitor activities in each of these areas to assess progress toward elimination of drug and alcohol abuse. Students, parents, and staff shall work together to achieve this goal.