

## STUDENT USE OF ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO

### Philosophy:

While primary responsibility for the health and welfare of students rests with the home and family, Missoula County Public Schools is also committed to the health and welfare of all students attending our schools. Part of that commitment includes providing schools, campuses and activities which are free of alcohol, tobacco, inhalants, and other mind altering substances. School personnel and local authorities will be vigilant in observing student behaviors that might indicate use and/or possession of alcohol, tobacco, inhalants, and other mind altering substances (including 'look alike' drugs and/or drug paraphernalia). ([Policy 3416](#) – Administration of Medicine for information regarding prescription and over-the-counter medicines on school grounds.)

Missoula County Public Schools also provides prevention education for students and intervenes when student use and/or possession of alcohol, tobacco, inhalants, and other mind altering substances (including 'look alike' drugs and/or drug paraphernalia) which may interfere with the student's success in school.

Students involved in athletics and other school activities are held to a higher standard and are subject to the current student Code of Conduct.

Additional consequences may be assigned by a court if a student breaks the law.

### Procedure:

1. **Offense** – Use or possession of tobacco
  - **Range of Consequences**
    - Ticketing by School Resource or Police Officer
    - Referral for counseling
    - Parental contact
    - Detention
    - Participation in tobacco use cessation sessions
    - Suspension (one or more days)
    - Expulsion
2. **Offense** – Possession of, or being under the influence of alcohol, inhalants, and other mind altering substances (including 'look alike' drugs and/or drug paraphernalia)
  - **Range of Consequences**
    - Ticketing by School Resource or Police Officer
    - Referral for counseling
    - Parental contact
    - Participation in school approved program
    - Suspension (three or more days)
    - Expulsion
3. **Offense** – Sale or distribution of alcohol, inhalants, and other mind altering substances (including 'look alike' drugs and/or drug paraphernalia)
  - **Range of Consequences**
    - Ticketing by School Resource or Police Officer
    - Referral for counseling
    - Parental contact
    - Participation in school approved program and/or court ordered program
    - Suspension (three or more days)
    - Expulsion