



STUDENTS

5141.23

Psychotropic Drug Use

In conformity with state statute, the Board of Education prohibits all school personnel from recommending the use of psychotropic drugs for any student enrolled within the school system. For purposes of this policy, the term "recommend" shall mean to directly or indirectly suggest that a child should use psychotropic drugs. However, members of the school medical staff, including school nurses and the district's medical advisor, may recommend that a student be evaluated by an appropriate medical practitioner. Further, upon the consent of the student's parents or guardian, school personnel may consult with the medical practitioner regarding such use.

Nothing in this policy shall be construed to prohibit a planning and placement team from discussing with parents and/or guardians of a child the appropriateness of consultation with, or evaluation by, medical practitioners; or to prohibit school personnel from consulting with appropriate medical practitioners with the consent of the parents and/or guardians of a child.

The Board recognizes that the refusal of a parent or other person having control of a child to administer or consent to the administration of any psychotropic drug to the child shall not, in and of itself, constitute grounds for the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to take such child into custody or for any court of competent jurisdiction to order that such child be taken into custody by the department, unless such refusal causes such child to be neglected or abused, as defined in C.G.S. 46b-120.

The Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee shall promulgate this policy to district staff and parents/guardians of students annually and upon the registration of new students.

(cf. 5141.4 – Reporting of Child Abuse and Neglect)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

P.A. 01-124: An Act Concerning Recommendations For and Refusals of the Use of Psychotropic Drugs by Children and Utilization Review Determinations related to Mental and Nervous Conditions.

46b-120. Definitions

Policy Adopted: 10/16/01