

Section 9-14.1. Mood altering drugs prohibited; support for substance abuse programs and efforts to help students. —

~~A. The use of mood altering chemicals (including alcohol, glue, illegal drugs) except when used as directed by a physician (prescription drugs) interferes with the education process and inhibits the potential of the individual student. By facilitating awareness programs aimed at preventing the use/misuse of these chemicals may pre-empt the need for intervention and/or treatment.~~ The primary responsibility for helping students who are seriously involved with chemicals lies with the students and their parents. ~~However the potential for lasting personal damage exists unless educators and parents work together to help students understand the complex nature of chemical dependency. Nevertheless, the Suffolk Public Schools School Board strives to provide a~~ A supportive school environment is necessary for students ~~who have been harmfully~~ involved with chemical use/abuse.

B. The School Board supports substance abuse programs which can vary in scope according to the individual needs of each school. Included among these would be programs for persons who desire more information, for those who need help with intervention in ~~an existing problem (their own or someone else's)~~ and for those who need help completing the goals of a rehabilitation program. The School Board support efforts to help students during the school day as well as to reinforce programs offered through other agencies. To that end, individual school substance programs should provide group experiences, individual counseling and such other programs, devices as are judged to be necessary by school personnel and other involved agencies. (Adopted February 9, 1995)

Legal Authority - Virginia Code ~~§22.1-8~~ §§ 22.1-78, 16.1-305.1.