

RESOLUTION
ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND OTHER DRUGS
PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION

(Passed December 7, 2006)

WHEREAS, the Nebraska State Board of Education believes that underage use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs by students represents a significant health, safety and education risk, and

WHEREAS, Nebraska data demonstrates that youth involvement with alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs are problems that cannot be ignored, and

WHEREAS, the Nebraska State Board of Education encourages local school districts to establish policies, procedures, and strategies, which emphasize and recognize behaviors that promote a safe, positive and emotionally secure and drug-free teaching and learning environment.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED

That, the Nebraska State Board of Education supports the goal of preventing the use of alcohol, tobacco, and drugs by school age children.

That, all the Nebraska school districts be encouraged to provide safe, caring, and drug-free learning environments and provide programs and services that address student needs and prevent alcohol, tobacco, and other drug abuse. And, school districts are encouraged to review, update and/or create comprehensive policies that address the following critical areas.

- Use local data informing policies, programs, and practices.
- District and school building policies and implementation, which are fair, consistent, and create the conditions for a safe, caring school learning environment.
- Comprehensive plans for implementing their policies at the building level that assure that students are safe, supported, and drug free.
- Adequate professional development and support for teachers, staff and administrators on how to create safe and more caring school/community prevention programs.
- Research-based programs and practices that teach students of the dangers of risky behaviors and skills to deal with problems including refusal, conflict management, and coping.

- A system of early identification and referral that insures youth in need of services are connected with appropriate community services that address the student and families needs.
- Engagement of students, families and communities as prevention partners.
- Out of school time activities and clubs in addition to sports teams should incorporate skill building, cooperation and communication.
- Additional supports and considerations should be given to the periods of transition from elementary to middle school, from middle to high school, and from high school to life beyond secondary school