

Personnel

Psychotropic Drugs

School personnel are prohibited from recommending the use of psychotropic drugs for any student. The term “school personnel” includes consultants hired by the District, as well as District employees. School medical staff may recommend that a student be evaluated by an appropriate medical practitioner. School medical staff may consult with such practitioner only with the consent of the student’s parent or guardian. Such consent should be in writing, dated, and signed by the student’s parent or guardian.

A “psychotropic drug” means a behavior modifying medication used for the direct effect it exerts upon the central nervous system to modify thoughts, feelings, mental activities, mood, or performance, such as antimanics, antianxiety agents, antipsychotics, antidepressants, stimulants, and sedative/hypnotics. Examples of psychotropic drugs include, but are not limited to: ativan, lithium, ritalin, valium, prozac, serax, zoloft, and xanax.

Medications which are not usually described as psychotropic drugs are considered psychotropics for the purpose of this regulation when they are prescribed primarily for their psychotropic effects such as mood stabilization and impulse control. Such medications include certain anticonvulsants, some beta-blockers, and certain other drugs.

Nothing in this regulation shall be construed to prohibit a Planning and Placement Team (PPT) from discussing with parents or guardians the appropriateness of consultation with, or evaluation by, medical practitioners.

Should personnel become aware of a violation of this regulation, he or she should immediately inform the appropriate supervisor. Any violation of this regulation shall result in discipline, up to and including termination of employment.

Regulation approved: March 12, 2002
by Policy Committee

LEDYARD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Ledyard, Connecticut