

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

The question of drug use and abuse is a most aggravating reality to all teachers. However, it is a problem that must be faced honestly and not through fear.

At this time we do not see drugs as a major crisis in Hackensack High School. However, this does not mean to imply that no problems exist.

In order to handle the question of drug abuse in a professional manner, we suggest the following procedures and policies:

1. Any staff member who suspects a student of drug abuse should inform the Principal immediately. This information and suspicion is not to be transmitted through, or discussed with, any other staff member.
2. The Principal or Assistant Principal shall investigate, and if necessary, shall contact the proper school personnel to be involved; such as, Student Assistance Counselor, the Superintendent of Schools, School Nurse, Psychologist, Guidance Counselor. Further action may be recommended by these specialists.
3. Decisions for contacting outside agencies (Youth Bureau) shall be made only by the Principal or Student Assistance Counselor.
4. The Principal or Student Assistance Counselor shall contact the student's parents for consultation.
5. Referral to the School Psychologist shall be rendered.
6. Subject to a student's readmittance to school, class teachers will be informed through the regular channels of psychological services and guidance.

Our intentions are not punitive, however, our concern for all student places an obligation upon teachers to report either suspected or known drug abuse.

Please keep this sheet available in your desk, out of reach and eyes of students.