

Information from the Superintendent

September 22, 2009

NEW DRUG and ALCOHOL PROCEDURES FOR PENTUCKET

The newly adopted Drug and Alcohol Procedures voted by the School Committee at their meeting on September 15, 2009 for your child's student handbook can be found on our website at this location:

<http://www.prsd.org/Announcements/Policies/Drug%20Policy%202009.pdf>

These procedures are the result of over one year of meetings and discussions with students, parents, PTO's, School Councils, teachers, administrators, and community members. This is a most difficult topic because each situation is unique and must be properly guided for successful remediation. This is also not just a school problem but really a community issue. How the entire community; schools, parents, law enforcement agencies, and other local organizations, models behaviors in these situations will have a great impact on what it says to our youth. Unfortunately, just like all communities, we have had concerns for the safety of our students. This work has addressed the following goals:

- Have procedures that bring consistency for all students involved in athletics, extracurricular activities, and all school sponsored activities.
- Be proactive whenever possible.
- Allow for flexibility with guidelines based on the individual's past experience and commitment to future actions by the student and family.
- Give support to students and families through education, school staff, and local agencies.
- Continue the work to make our schools and communities safe for all students.

Please contact an administrator, guidance counselor, or any school staff member if we can help you through any concerns with your children.

Over the next few weeks, we will be distributing a valuable reference book entitled "[A Parent's Guide For the Prevention of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Use](#)" to each family of a child/children in grades 3 -10. This material will help you answer many of the questions we all have as our children move through each grade level. I hope you will take an opportunity to review this information with all your family members. Communication is critical for success in this area. Additional information from the source of this reference book can be found at the website, [Community of Concern-Together keeping youth alcohol & drug free](#). These guides will be distributed at curriculum nights or mailed home depending on the school your child attends.