

Substance Abuse Prevention Committee Minutes
Meeting 2
November 2, 2011
District Office

New committee members were introduced.

The committee members reviewed their prioritized Committee Norms.

The committee also reviewed the list of requested information from the group.

The committee then reviewed what current substance abuse topics are covered at each grade level from elementary age to high school.

- Students in elementary school start learning about good drugs and bad drugs
- Fifth grade students have an entire unit on drugs and alcohol. There is a big unit on smoking and its affect on the lungs.
- Middle School students learn key decision making skills and refusal skills.
- High School Sophomores learn extensively about Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco and their effects on the body. There are many videos and resources for high school students as well as simulations like the DUI goggles.
- There are also several district wide initiatives like drug dog searches, a safe homes directory, drug testing kits are available free of charge to parents who request them, etc.

The committee then reviewed the 2011 Communities that Cares Student Survey Results. These results are based on responses from 6th, 8th, 10th, and 12th grade Andover students. The survey involves students self reporting use of alcohol, tobacco, and drugs.

In general there was a decline in the number of Andover students using tobacco and alcohol over the past several years. However, the number of students reporting they had tried marijuana had increased over the same time period. Also the survey showed the use of inhalants as more prevalent than other hard drugs and the use of prescription drugs was also increasing. There were many questions and comments about this data.

One main comment was that there seems to be a large amount time spent on the dangers of smoking and those usage numbers have dropped, so maybe we need to spend more time speaking about the dangers of marijuana.

The committee also reviewed a list of effective programs and curriculums. In addition, handouts were provided by Dr. Koenigs regarding other research about effective substance abuse programs. One such handout was a nice FAQ about random drug testing in schools.

A few questions remained for consideration next time.

1. What Butler County Schools took the CTC survey?
2. Can we see the CTC statistics by individual class?
3. Do Kapaun or Collegiate have policies dealing with drugs and alcohol?
4. How effective are Random Drug Testing Programs in KS Schools?

The next meeting will be December 7 at 6:30 p.m.