

Students

Student Assistance Program

Canton Union School District No. 66 recognizes that students can experience a number of problems which have an adverse effect on their behavior and/or academic performance in the school setting. Such problems can emanate from a number of factors including physical, emotional, or psychological stress; learning or mental disabilities; family or societal problems; or alcohol and other substance abuse. When such problems repeatedly and clearly interfere with the student's behavior, academic performance, or in other ways jeopardize the health, safety, and welfare of the individual or his/her student colleagues, it is important for the school to bring special support and assistance activities to bear to correct such problems.

Therefore, Canton Union School District No. 66 encourages and supports the establishment of Student Assistance Teams in the school buildings of the District. The Student Assistance Teams shall be composed of volunteer members of the staff of the District. Such staff shall be educated in the techniques of observation and assessment of student problems as well as the range of resources available to support the change process. Such teams shall be available to accept referrals from staff, parents, and from students. The student assistance team will be responsible to respond to such referrals, to assess the nature and extent of the problem, and to make appropriate recommendations for school and community programs which may be useful in bringing about a desired change in the student.

Communication between the team and other staff members, administrators, and parents will respect and abide by federal and state confidentiality and privacy laws.

No records of the student's participation with the Student Assistance Program will become part of the student's permanent record or cumulative file.

Student behavior which is in violation of codes of conduct in effect in the District will remain subject to all penalties associated with these codes. Such behavior is also subject to any laws of the city, state, or federal government which may have been violated. However, the administrator in charge, as well as the Board of Education, may hold recommendation for discipline in abeyance if satisfactory progress in the Student Assistance Program is initiated and continued.

It shall be the general purpose of Student Assistance Teams to provide support to students troubled by physical, emotional, medical, social, learning or chemical use problems; to support such students in achieving academic success in the educational environment of the school; to coordinate or bring to bear the existing human resources which may be useful in addressing student problems; and to refer students for appropriate evaluation, counseling, and treatment activities which are indicated by the team's evaluation of the student problem.

Specific procedures for the referral of students and for the activities of the Student Assistance Team will be developed by each building administrator in cooperation with the members of the Team in that building. Such procedures, along with this policy, will become the guidelines for operation of Student Assistance Teams in Canton Union School District

ADOPTED: August 21, 2000