

**State Board of Education**  
**School Substance Abuse and Violence Prevention Policy**  
Effective March 2006

Guided by Ohio's Shared Prevention Framework and building upon the School Climate Guidelines adopted in October 2004, The State Board of Education directs the Department of Education to build the capacity of school districts to create safe, caring learning environments in which students have access to practices and programs that prevent them from engaging in alcohol and other drug use, violence and other self-destructive behaviors and including suicide.

To this end, the Department of Education is directed to collaborate with key state agencies to promote the Shared Prevention Framework and to support initiatives consistent with the state mission and vision for prevention and early intervention; develop a biannual outcomes-driven plan including a strategy for advocating and seeking new state and federal resources to effect change in substance use/abuse and violence prevention, and a plan for evaluating all related state-funded programs, practices, research and strategies; and develop products and professional development to support the work of local school districts in preventing violence, alcohol, tobacco and other illegal drug use.

The State Board of Education strongly encourages local boards of education to adopt supportive policies to prevent violence, alcohol, tobacco and other illegal drug use and to use the Guidance for the School Substance Abuse and Violence Prevention Policy attached hereto in the development of local practices, programs and data collection for impact analysis.