



Santa Barbara
SCHOOL DISTRICTS

720 Santa Barbara Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101
Phone (805) 963-4338, Fax (805) 884-1557
www.sbsdk12.org

TO: Michael Gonzalez
Director, Compliance

DATE: June 18, 2009

FROM: Bud Andrews
CWA

SUBJECT: 3rd Controlled Substance Offense Principal Inquiry (after one year)

1. Secondary site principals were asked their opinions on the controlled substance policy implemented last year (recommending expulsion following a third controlled substance offense).
2. I provided a brief review of the problem. The email sent to the principals included: "As you know, we were recommending expulsion after a student's second offense, but that policy changed to a third offense (with limited discretion at the 2nd offense). The stated purpose to the change was to reduce the number of expulsions for controlled substances and offer more interventions. Last year (07-08), there were 39 recommendations for expulsion regarding controlled substances. This year, we've had 26 similar recommendations. If the sole purpose was to reduce expulsions, then the policy has been successful. However, successful at what cost to our sites?"
3. Responses included: "... sends the wrong message...", "...wrong message...", "...wrong message...", "... has not affected us, but sends wrong message...", and "...I support the two strike proposal, not three..."
4. Some of the responses addressed a need for greater interventions to include random drug testing, use of drug dogs at school, a need for meaningful intervention (i.e., SUPER does not help the hard users), and a need to send a strong message that controlled substances are clearly not tolerated at school.
5. No site principal indicated support for a third-offense policy.
6. The exact responses are available for your review, if you should want them.
7. As you know, I also support a recommendation for expulsion following the second offense. However, to be thorough, I believe it is necessary to allow the existing policy to remain in place for another year to analyze any trend(s) from it.

Cc: Superintendent
Associate Superintendent

Adams Elementary School	McKinley Elementary School	Roosevelt Elementary School	Goleta Valley Junior High School	Dos Pueblos High School
Cesar Chavez Charter School	Monroe Elementary School	Santa Barbara Charter School	La Colina Junior High School	La Cuesta Continuation High School
Cleveland Elementary School	Open Alternative School	Santa Barbara Community Academy	La Cumbre Junior High School	San Marcos High School
Franklin Elementary School	Peabody Charter School	Washington Elementary School	Santa Barbara Junior High School	Santa Barbara High School
Harding Elementary School				Home School Santa Barbara