

StudentsPsychotropic Drug Use

“*Psychotropic Drugs*” shall be defined as a drugs that affects psychic function, behavior, or experiences of a person using them and are—generally used in the treatment of psychiatric disorders. Examples of Psychotropic Drugs include: the Antipsychotics Clozaril, Navane, and Maldol; the Antidepressants Wellbutrin, Prozac, Tofranil, and Pamelor; the mood stabilizer Lithium; the anxiolytics Ativan, Xanax, and Klonopin; and the stimulants Ritalin and Aderall; and other *such* drugs prescribed by a psychiatrist or other medical practitioner.

The Brookfield Board of Education believes that recommending the use of psychotropic drugs is exclusively a medical responsibility. Therefore, the Board prohibits all school personnel from recommending the use of psychotropic drugs for any student enrolled within the school system. However, members of the school medical staff, including school nurses and the district’s medical advisor, may recommend that a student be evaluated by an appropriate medical practitioner. Further, upon the written consent of the student’s parents or guardian, school personnel may consult with the medical practitioner regarding such use.

The Board recognizes the right of parents/guardians to refuse to administer or consent to the administration of psychotropic drugs to their children. If, however, this refusal is *suspected* child neglect or abuse, as defined in C.G.S. 46b-120, *any mandated reporter shall* contact the Department of Children and Families as per Policy 141.4. The Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee shall promulgate this policy to district staff and parents/guardians of students annually and upon the registration of new students.

(cf. 5141.4 Child Abuse and Neglect)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

P.A. 01-124: An Act Concerning
Recommendations For and Refusals of
the Use of Psychotropic Drugs by Children and Utilization Review
Determinations related to Mental and Nervous Conditions.

46b-120. Definitions

Policy
Reviewed: 09/12/2001

BROOKFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Brookfield, Connecticut