

## **DRUGS & ALCOHOL**

*Des Sjoquist,*

*High School Principal.*

All of the teachers and staff at our High School are concerned about the physical, emotional and social health of every student. We consider every member of our student body and faculty as members of our family. It is with this in mind, that our attention and concern have been drawn to recent rumors that a few ASFG students are engaging in the inappropriate use of alcohol and drugs off campus. We want to ensure that our students are free of such obstacles so that they may learn at their fullest potential. We also want to ensure that the reputation of the majority of ASFG students is not tarnished by the actions of those few.

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ASFG's alcohol and drug policy is clearly stated on pages 7-8 of the Parent/Student Handbook 2001-2002. The guiding philosophy behind the policy states:

1. Addiction to alcohol and drugs on the part of students, teachers, or employers is incompatible with the school's desired image and with the fundamental principle of leading a positive life.
2. It also considers that the use and/or abuse of prohibited substances is a serious problem in society affecting personal health.

After consulting with a group of parents, students, teachers and administrators we have developed a plan of action which we feel will effectively help those students who are not performing up to their full potential. At the same time, this plan of action clearly communicates to all members of our community that it is not acceptable to use and/or abuse prohibited substances

We have identified a group of students who are not performing to their full potential at ASFG. The objective criteria for identification is as follows:

### **Academic Concern:**



- a) Below 70% GPA in the most recent quarter.
- b) A decrease of more than 5% for the quarterly GPA.
- c) The failing of two or more subjects during the second quarter.

**Attendance Concern:**

- a) More than 10 unjustified absences this year to date.
- b) More than 10 tardies this quarter.

If the student states that they have not used alcohol and/or drugs since the beginning of the school year, then we will work with the parents and student to determine what is causing the student's lack of success at ASFG and to develop a plan of action that will address this concern.

If the student states that they have not used alcohol and/or drugs since the beginning of the school year and the parents and/or administration are concerned about the credibility of the student's statement, the student will be tested while under the supervision of the parents and school for alcohol and/or drug use. If the result is negative, we will work together to determine what is causing the student's lack of success at ASFG and to develop a plan of action that will address this concern. If the result is positive, the student will be expelled immediately for lying to both the school and parents, and consequently showing a lack of respect towards the values of our ASFG community.

If the student admits that they have used alcohol and/or drugs since the beginning of the school year, then we will work with the parents and student to develop a comprehensive plan to ensure that the student does not continue to use alcohol and/or drugs for the remainder of the school year. The student will be subject to randomized testing during this time period to ensure the student is remaining committed to a healthy recovery. If the student's test results come back positive the student may be expelled from the school.

We believe that a minority of students use of alcohol and/or drugs on every High School campus in the world. Pretending that this problem does not exist here in Guadalajara or ignoring its presence at ASFG is a disservice to our students and parents. We care about our family members and we want to ensure that students are making healthy choices about their future. We hope that this plan of action will help the minority of students who are not performing up to their full potential. We are not trying to 'catch' students or create a 'police state' where no one has rights; we are trying to help students be successful.

If you have questions or comments we encourage you to contact us at 3648-0299 or email us at [des.sjoquist@warrior.asfg.mx](mailto:des.sjoquist@warrior.asfg.mx). Together we can make a difference. Thank you for your support.

Des Sjoquist,

High School Principal

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### **Upcoming Events:**

- ▶ Progress Reports -Feb 28
- ▶ Renaissance Festival Mar 7th 8:00 pm/ Mar 8th 8:30 am
- ▶ Nat. Honor Society Dinner Mar 13th at 7:00 pm
- ▶ Japan Trip Mar 20th - Apr 4th Spring
- ▶ Break Mar 21st - Apr 7th