



Dr. Lisa Walsh, Director of Education and Secretary of the Board

Avon Maitland District School Board
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Dear Parents/Guardians,

Today, cannabis became legal in Canada. While we expect that provincially and within municipalities, there will be more information to follow, it is important for everyone to understand that the legalization will not alter the existing rules and practices in schools. A student in the Avon Maitland District School Board (AMDSB), shall not be in possession of, and/or under the influence of an illegal, controlled and/or restricted substance at school, or on our playgrounds/properties, or while participating in school sanctioned activities and events.

Despite legalization for recreational cannabis use in Ontario, there are imposed limits and regulations with respect to the use of cannabis for youth.

YOUTH UNDER 19 are NOT allowed to:

- Buy or consume
- Possess any amount
- Share with anyone
- Grow or harvest plants

The safety of our students and staff remains the priority for AMDSB. We will continue to follow the curriculum to educate students about the potential dangers of drug use, including cannabis, and we will be vigilant in our efforts to educate and consequence students under the influence of, and/or in possession of illegal, controlled and/or restricted drugs.

Suspension will be imposed by school administrators for students possessing alcohol, and/or illegal, controlled and/or restricted drugs, and for being under the influence of alcohol, and/or illegal, controlled and/or restricted drugs. A recommendation to expel a student from all schools in the district may be made for a student who is trafficking in illegal, controlled and/or restricted drugs. While all AMDSB Administrative Procedures remain in effect, those impacted by new legislation may be temporarily removed from the Board's web site while revisions occur.

More information is available on the Ontario Ministry of Education's web site at www.edu.gov.on.ca. If you have any questions about the legalization of cannabis for recreational use and its impact on schools, please do not hesitate to contact your school principal or Superintendent of Safe Schools Jodie Baker at the Education Centre, (519) 527-0111 or 1-800-592-5437 ext. 208

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jodie Baker', written in a cursive style.

Jodie Baker
Superintendent of Education