Policy Number: 414
Policy Section: 400 – Staff Policies
Effective Date: October 19, 2022
Revision Date: November 19, 2026

Policy 414 — Positive Behavior Plan Policy

REFERENCES

- Utah Code § 53G-10-407 — Positive Behaviors Plan
- Utah Code § 53G-10-406 — Underage Drinking and Substance Abuse Prevention Program
- Utah Code § 53G-7-1205 — Charter Trust Land Councils
- Utah Administrative Rule R277-910 — Underage Drinking and Substance Abuse Prevention Program

I. Purpose and Philosophy

The Board of Directors of DaVinci Academy of Science and the Arts is committed to providing a safe, supportive, and positive learning environment that promotes healthy student development, responsible decision-making, and meaningful relationships.

In accordance with Utah Code § 53G-10-407, DaVinci Academy shall develop, implement, and maintain a Positive Behaviors Plan. This plan is intended to address the underlying causes of student use of tobacco, alcohol, electronic cigarette products, and other controlled substances by promoting positive behaviors and strengthening protective factors.

DaVinci Academy recognizes that positive school relationships, mental health support, effective prevention education, and opportunities for meaningful student involvement contribute to healthy decision-making and student success.

II. Development of Positive Behavior Plans

2.1 School administrators will develop the Positive Behaviors Plan adding input for their specific program (Flex, Elementary and Secondary).

2.2 In developing the plan, school administration shall seek and consider input from students, parents, and school staff. Input may be obtained through surveys, meetings, student leadership groups, parent feedback, school climate data, or other appropriate methods.

2.3 The school's Charter Trust Land Council shall be provided an opportunity to review and provide input on the proposed plan in accordance with Utah Code § 53G-7-1205.

2.4 The Executive Director shall submit the Positive Behaviors Plan to the DaVinci Academy Board of Directors for approval prior to implementation. Substantive revisions shall also be submitted for board approval.

III. Required Components

3.1 Peer Pressure and Healthy Decision-Making - Provide students with age-appropriate opportunities to develop skills for resisting negative peer pressure, making responsible decisions, and avoiding substance use.

3.2 Mental Health and Student Well-Being - Promote student mental health and well-being through appropriate education, positive school environments, access to school support personnel, and connections to available resources.

3.3 Meaningful Relationships - Encourage positive relationships between students, staff members, families, and peers. Schools shall seek opportunities to strengthen student belonging, connection, and involvement in the school community.

3.4 Positive Student Engagement - Plans may incorporate school programs, student organizations, extracurricular activities, mentoring, service opportunities, and other positive activities that strengthen protective factors and promote responsible behavior.

IV. Substance Use Prevention Education

4.1 DaVinci Academy shall provide evidence-based substance use prevention education in accordance with Utah law and State Board of Education requirements.

4.2 DaVinci Academy utilizes the Botvin LifeSkills Training program as its state-approved underage drinking and substance abuse prevention curriculum.

4.3 Botvin LifeSkills Training shall be offered to students in the grade bands required by Utah Code § 53G-10-406 and Utah Administrative Rule R277-910, including grades 4 or 5, grades 7 or 8, and grades 9 or 10.

4.4 Instruction shall emphasize the development of personal management skills, social skills, resistance to peer pressure, healthy decision-making, and prevention of tobacco, alcohol, electronic cigarette, and other substance use.

4.5 Staff assigned to implement Botvin LifeSkills Training shall complete applicable program training and follow current state guidance regarding curriculum delivery and instructional requirements.

4.6 Principals shall coordinate prevention education with the school's Positive Behaviors Plan and other applicable student health, safety, and prevention initiatives.

V. Positive Behaviors Specialist

5.1 The Executive Director shall serve as the Positive Behaviors Specialist.

5.2 They shall coordinate implementation of the school's approved plan, monitor progress, maintain appropriate documentation, and support school personnel in carrying out prevention activities.

5.3 The Positive Behaviors Specialist shall prepare and submit an annual written report to the Board of Directors describing implementation of the plan during the preceding year.

5.4 Any state funding provided for Positive Behaviors Plan, including specialist stipends or implementation funding, shall be administered in accordance with applicable state requirements and available appropriations.

VI. Implementation and Evaluation

6.1 Program directors, in collaboration with the Executive Director and other appropriate staff, shall oversee implementation of the approved plan.

6.2 DaVinci Academy shall use available information, including student feedback, school climate data, discipline information, and other relevant indicators, to evaluate the effectiveness of prevention activities.

6.3 DaVinci Academy's plan shall be reviewed at least annually and updated as appropriate to address changing student needs, available data, and state requirements.

6.4 The Positive Behaviors Plan shall complement, rather than replace, DaVinci Academy's existing student discipline, bullying prevention, suicide prevention, student mental health, and safety policies.

VII. Board Oversight and Reporting

7.1 The Board of Directors shall review and approve the Positive Behaviors Plan and any substantive revisions.

7.2 The Board shall receive an annual written implementation report the Executive Director as the Positive Behavior Specialist.

7.3 The Board shall ensure that DaVinci Academy submits the required annual assurance to the Utah State Board of Education confirming that our school has an approved Positive Behaviors Plan.

7.4 When serving as the Charter Trust Land Council in accordance with applicable law, the Board shall separately document its review and input regarding the Positive Behaviors Plan in its council capacity.

VIII. School Land Trust Coordination

8.1 The Charter Trust Land Council shall provide input to school principals regarding Positive Behaviors Plans as required by Utah Code § 53G-7-1205.

8.2 The Council shall coordinate with school administrators to consider relevant student safety and prevention needs.

8.3 The Positive Behaviors Plan shall be coordinated with, but remain separate from, School LAND Trust academic improvement plans.

8.4 School LAND Trust funds shall not be used to support Positive Behaviors Plan activities unless the proposed expenditures independently satisfy all applicable School LAND Trust funding requirements and are included in an appropriately approved academic improvement plan.

IX. Administrative Responsibilities

The Executive Director or designee shall establish procedures necessary to implement this policy, maintain required documentation, ensure compliance with applicable state requirements, and coordinate reporting to the Board of Directors and Utah State Board of Education.