



POSSESSION OR USE OF DRUGS

As a preface to this statement, we want all parents and students to realize that, as far as we know, the great majority of the people served by this school system are not users of drugs and have never been involved with drugs in any way.

However, as we all are aware, our society has generally experienced increasing problems with drugs over the past few years. In the Palermo Union School District community, just as in other communities, there have been occasional problems with drug possession or usage. Occasionally, students come to school under the influence or with drugs in their possession. A few students have been expelled for this reason in the recent past.

The people responsible for the operation of our schools---teachers, administrators, and all others---are determined that students shall not be allowed to become involved with drugs. We feel that parents in this community have a similar attitude and expect those of us responsible for the schools to deal sternly, swiftly, and decisively with any student apprehended with marijuana, alcohol, or any other dangerous, illegal substance.

Although we assure everyone concerned that all students will be treated fairly and that all the requisites of due process of law will be observed by the District and the police, we want everyone to know the following facts:

1. Any student apprehended in any instance with drugs will immediately be suspended from school.
2. The student will immediately be referred to appropriate juvenile authorities.
3. An administrative recommendation for expulsion shall be made to the Governing Board. (Expulsion is termination of the student's right to attend Palermo Union School District schools.)
4. The students, with parents, will be called before the Governing Board of the Palermo Union School District in an expulsion hearing.