

# When a Student Is Under The Influence

Just as with any emergency situation, the safety and well-being of the student experiencing the crisis and the safety of the entire student population is paramount. Following some standard procedures will help alleviate some of the tension in a crisis situation.

- ✓ Try to separate the student from the rest of the student body before confronting him or her. This eliminates the possibility of harm to others.
- ✓ When confronting a student, it is important to get as much information as possible regarding what substances he or she has used. Adverse reactions when using more than one substance are common.
- ✓ Take note of physical symptoms. They might be important to know if the student progresses to hallucinations, seizures or unconsciousness.
- ✓ Collect and save any packages, bottles, bags or paraphernalia that might have contained the substances or contains the substance itself.
- ✓ If a student is found to be incoherent, seizing or unconscious, don't hesitate to call emergency services for help. Try to find out what substances have been consumed. Adverse reactions, overdose and alcohol poisoning are medical emergencies. Time is of the utmost importance when trying to get help in these situations.
- ✓ In all situations, follow the guidelines set forth by your school's ATOD (alcohol, tobacco and other drug) policy.

