DRUG PREVENTION TEAM ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Many people are vested in a student's education, especially when a health issue like a problem with drugs or alcohol affects his or her ability to learn. Whoever you've identified to serve as a drug prevention specialist or coordinator should be responsible for leading this team, which includes:

- Student and family
- Academic (teacher, guidance counselor, school administrator, school psychologist)
- Medical (nurse, physician, athletic trainer)
- Athletic (coach, athletic director, physical education teacher)

The role of each member of the Drug Prevention Team is as follows:

Team Member	Role
Student	– To clearly and honestly communicate his or her symptoms, academic difficulties and feelings – To carry out any assigned duties by other team members to the best of his or her ability
Parent/Guardian	– To submit all physician notes and instructions to the school in a timely manner – To help the student maintain compliance with any medical and/or academic recommendations given to promote recovery
Teacher	– To help the student get the best education possible given the circumstances and to follow recommended academic accommodations
Guidance counselor	– To help create and disseminate academic accommodations to the student's teachers

Administrator	– To direct and oversee policies and protocols for drug or alcohol misuse on school premises, including suspension and child/family education programs – To help create a change in the culture of the school regarding implementation of programs and policies
School psychologist	– To be the consultant for prolonged or complicated cases where long-term accommodations or more extensive assessment and educational plans may be necessary
Nurse	– To monitor in-school symptoms and health status changes – To help determine if it is appropriate for the student to be in school or if the student needs any health-related accommodations
Physician Physician	– To evaluate, diagnose and manage the student's drug or alcohol problem, and to direct medical and academic recommendations
Athletic trainer	– To test athletes for drug or alcohol misuse and/ or recognize symptoms – To monitor symptoms and help coordinate and supervise a student athlete's safe return to play – To communicate with the school about the student's progress
Athletic director	– To set and oversee the athletic department's policies for drug use, including eligibility and drug testing

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Coach/physical education teacher	– To recognize symptoms of drug or alcohol misuse and remove player from practice or competition if he or she is using – To receive communication from healthcare providers, parent/guardian and school about readiness to return to play – To communicate with the school about the student's progress

Your school district may have a team already in place to support Concussion Management Protocols, which can be deployed when you've identified a student at risk for drug or alcohol misuse. The roles of these team members in addressing drug and alcohol issues may vary slightly.

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