

STUDENT DRUG TESTING

Statement of Purpose and Intent

For the safety, health and well being of the students of the North Platte R-I School District, the district has adopted this policy for students who wish to participate in extracurricular activities in grades nine through twelve. In addition, the policy will govern student parking privileges at North Platte High School.

The Board of Education of the North Platte R-1 School District is strongly committed to deter and prevent student drug use and to offer student activities in a safe, secure and drug-free school setting. Substance abuse prevention programs have been utilized in the district in all grades and educational activities and materials have been implemented in accordance with the Safe and Drug Free School and Communities initiatives.

Participation in school-sponsored extracurricular activities in the district is a privilege. Likewise, student parking is a privilege. Accordingly, students who have these privileges carry a responsibility to themselves, their fellow students, their parents and their school to set the highest possible examples of conduct—including avoiding the use or possession of illegal drugs. It is the belief of the North Platte R-1 Board of Education, administration and staff that this policy will assist in the district's efforts to reduce the use of illegal drugs in the district. This policy is intended to complement and supplement all other policies, rules and regulations of the district regarding possession or use of illegal drugs. The actions of this policy relate solely to limiting the opportunity of any student in violation of this policy to participate in the following activities: extracurricular activities and parking privileges (school bus transportation is available for North Platte R-1 students). There will be no suspension from school for violation of this policy, except when the district's discipline policy is also violated. Students will be subject to the penalties of the discipline policy and this policy as appropriate.

Definitions

1. Activities—includes Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA) sanctioned activities, extracurricular activities and parking privileges.
2. MSHSAA Activities—athletics, cheerleading and academic competition.
3. Extracurricular Activities—activities that take place outside of the regular course of study in school.
4. Parking Privileges—the use of the North Platte High School parking lot for student drivers.

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5. Participant—any student in grades nine through twelve who is involved in extracurricular activities or any student who wishes to obtain a student parking pass and is thereby eligible to be randomly selected for drug testing.
6. Drug Test—a scientifically substantiated method to test for the presence of illegal drugs as determined by a urine test.
7. Illegal Drugs—the synthetic or generic equivalent or derivative drugs that are illegal under federal, state, or local laws, including but not limited to marijuana, alcohol, heroin, hashish, cocaine, hallucinogens, depressants and stimulants not prescribed for the user. Illegal drugs include steroids and steroid derivatives or related substances that are not prescribed by a physician or are prescribed by a physician for uses not authorized by the manufacturer of the drug. This term shall include, but shall not be limited to, all drugs listed on the Narcotic Drug Act, section 195.101, RSMo, and Section 202 of the Controlled Substances Act, 21 U.S.C. 812.
8. Non-negative test—any test showing an initial positive result that has not been verified.
9. Positive Drug Test—a toxicological test result that is considered to demonstrate the presence of an illegal drug or the metabolites thereof using the standards customarily established by the testing laboratory administering the drug use test. This term alternatively may be referenced as a “positive,” a “positive test” or a “positive result.”

Confidentiality

All records related to the random student drug testing program shall be kept in confidential files separate from a student’s permanent educational records and those files will be destroyed upon the student’s graduation from school. Test results shall be released to school personnel only as needed to implement this policy.

Drug Counseling and Assistance

The main goal of this drug testing program is to educate students regarding the serious problems of drug abuse and to inform parents of risky behaviors concerning drug use. As such, drug counseling and assistance programs may be sought by the parents of any student who has a positive drug test under this policy. If requested by the parents, assistance in obtaining help for the student will be provided by the school counselors. Any costs for assistance or enrollment into any drug counseling sessions will be exclusively the responsibility of the student or parent/guardian.

Student Discipline Policy

The Student Drug-Testing Policy does not limit or otherwise affect Board policy, regulation, or procedure regarding discipline for the sale, possession, use, distribution or purchase of drugs (or alcohol) when reasonable suspicion of such conduct arises out of circumstances other than the random testing conducted pursuant to the policy.

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Note: The reader is encouraged to check the index located at the beginning of this section for other pertinent policies and to review administrative procedures and/or forms for related information.

Adopted: 08/23/2010

Cross Refs: IGAEA, Teaching about Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco
IGD, District-Sponsored Extracurricular Activities and Organizations

Legal Refs: U.S. Const., amend. IV
Board of Educ. of Ind. Sch. Dist. No. 92 of Pottawatomie County v. Earls, 536 U.S. 822 (2002)
Vernonia Sch. Dist. v. Acton, 515 U.S. 646 (1995)

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Each student wishing to participate in activities will be required to complete a consent form and return it to the high school office prior to participation in school-sponsored extracurricular activities. Any student not completing the consent form and returning it within the prescribed time will be ineligible to participate in activities for the remainder of the school year. Students will be required to submit a consent form before a parking pass will be issued. Students who do not participate in activities may still participate in the drug-testing program on a voluntary basis by submitting a consent form.

A student who does not submit a consent form initially may appeal to join the drug testing pool in order to participate in an activity at a later date in the school year. However, appeals will only be granted for unusual circumstances and students are not guaranteed participation in activities. The appeal will be reviewed by a committee of school personnel.

Participants will be assigned a number for identification. The third-party testing firm will randomly select no more than 25 percent of the random pool during each testing session.

Students will be required to provide urine samples as follows:

1. Each student will be required to provide a urine sample as a condition of participation in school-sponsored extracurricular activities, including parking. The school administration will determine the number of participants for each testing session. Numbers will be drawn at random to select participants to provide a urine sample. A designated school official will match the selected numbers to the master list of participants.
2. Random testing will be scheduled periodically by school administration and will be conducted during the school year only.
3. Any drug test required by the district under the terms of this policy will be administered by or at the direction of a drug-testing company chosen by the district. The third-party testing firm will use scientifically validated toxicological methods and will document to the district detailed written specifications to assure chain of custody of the specimens, proper laboratory control and scientific testing.
4. All aspects of the drug-testing program, including the collection of specimens, will be conducted to safeguard the personal and privacy rights of participants. The test specimen shall be obtained in a manner designed to minimize the intrusiveness of the procedure.

In particular, the specimen must be collected in a private restroom behind a closed door. The drug-testing company technician will supervise the participant and will wait outside the door

- until the specimen has been produced. The technician will verify the normal warmth and appearance of the specimen. If at any time during the testing procedure the technician has reason to suspect that a student is tampering with the specimen, the technician may stop the procedure to determine whether a new sample should be obtained.
5. If the screening sample is non-negative, the result will be subject to confirmation by a second and different test of the same specimen. In order to keep the results of the initial testing confidential, the district may choose a certain number of samples for a confirmation test. The second test will use gas chromatography/mass spectrometry technique.
 6. Samples may be tested for adulterants. If an adulteration substance is found, the test will be considered positive.
 7. If the gas chromatography/mass spectrometry test for any participant has a positive result, the testing firm will contact the designated school official with the results. The designated school official will then notify the parent/guardian and request a meeting. At the meeting, the designated school official will inform the parent/guardian of the positive result and ask for permission to forward the results to a medical review officer. If permission is granted, the designated school official will obtain the parent/guardian's name, ID number and contact phone number and forward that information to the third-party testing firm, who will then forward the information to the medical review officer. If permission is not granted, or the parent/guardian will not meet with the designated school official, the lab results will be accepted as the final results.
 8. When the medical review officer receives the above information, he will contact the parent/guardian, verify identification and then discuss medications the student is taking. If any of the medications being taken by the student could explain the positive result, the medical review officer will verify with the pharmacy filling the prescription or the prescribing physician (in some cases, both) that there is a legitimate prescription in the student's name. Once all pertinent information has been obtained, the medical review officer will make a final determination of the test results. Those results will be forwarded to the third-party testing firm, who will then forward them to the designated school official.
 9. The district will rely on the opinion of the medical review officer in determining whether the positive test result was produced by means other than use or consumption of an illegal drug by the participant.
 10. If a student does not produce a urine sample within three (3) hours, the student will have five (5) days to obtain a shy bladder examination from a licensed physician (at the student's expense) to determine if there is a valid medical reason for not voiding in the three (3)-hour time frame. If the student does not have the exam, or if there is not a valid medical reason,

then the test would be deemed positive. The medical review officer will make this determination.

11. Upon confirmation of the positive test result, the activities director or the principal will provide notice to the parent and the student of the restrictions resulting from the positive test.
12. Parent(s)/guardian(s) of students who tested negative in the initial screening will be notified by personnel of the district within five (5) working days after testing.

Violations

First Offense

1. For the first offense, the participant shall be suspended from participating in school-sponsored extracurricular activities for a period of 30 calendar days beginning on the date the results are official. The suspension will carry from one sport to another sport. Furthermore, the participant will be restricted from parking privileges on school property for the same period.
2. During this time, the student may attend practices and activity meetings, but he or she will not participate in performances, games or competitions.
3. Before eligibility is reinstated in school-sponsored extracurricular activities, the participant must provide a negative test result utilizing the third-party testing firm, with expenses exclusively the responsibility of the student or parent/guardian.

Second Offense

1. For the second offense, the participant shall be suspended from participation in all school-sponsored extracurricular activities including practices, meetings, performances, games and competitions for a period of one calendar year. Furthermore, the participant will be restricted from parking privileges on school property for the same period.
2. Before eligibility is reinstated in school-sponsored extracurricular activities, the participant must provide a negative test result utilizing the third-party testing firm, with expenses exclusively the responsibility of the student or parent/guardian.

Third Offense

1. For the third offense, the participant shall be permanently suspended from participation in all school-sponsored extracurricular activities including all practices, meetings,

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performances, games and competitions. The participant will also lose all parking privileges for the remainder of his or her high school career.

Refusal to Submit to Random Drug Use Test

1. If a participant refuses to submit to a random drug test authorized under this policy, the participant will be considered to have had a positive test and will receive the restrictions according to the offense.
2. Requesting removal from the drug testing pool will automatically cause the student to be suspended from participation in all activities including all meetings, practices, performances, games or competitions for 365 days. Furthermore, the participant will be restricted from parking privileges on school property for the same period.

Retest after Service of Suspension

At the conclusion of the period of suspension, any participant who does not withdraw from the pool voluntarily will be subject to one or more additional drug-use tests during the 365-day period following his or her suspension. Before eligibility is reinstated in school-sponsored extracurricular activities, the participant must provide a negative test result utilizing the third-party testing firm, with expenses exclusively the responsibility of the student or parent/guardian.

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Note: The reader is encouraged to review policies and/or forms for related information in this administrative area.

Implemented: 08/24/2010

North Platte R-I School District, Dearborn, Missouri