

STUDENT DRUG TESTING

The Board recognizes the importance of protecting the health and safety of students from the use of illegal drugs, performance-enhancing drugs and alcohol. The purpose of this policy is to help prevent substance abuse among students, to encourage treatment for students with substance abuse problems and to ensure that students have the opportunity to attend school and participate in activities in a fair, safe and healthy environment.

The superintendent or designee is directed to adopt procedures to carry out the intent of this policy and may contact the district's attorney for assistance in applying this policy. The district will use a laboratory certified by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Random Drug Testing

Participation in covered activities is a privilege and carries with it the responsibility to adhere to high standards of conduct, including refraining from the use of illegal drugs, performance-enhancing drugs and alcohol. To assist students in making healthy and safe choices, the district will conduct random drug testing of students in grades 7-12 as a condition of participation in covered activities. Covered activities are activities regulated by the Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA), all extracurricular clubs/organizations (excluding all activities for which students receive an academic grade for participation), and parking on school premises. The list of covered activities subject to drug testing will be published annually and made available to students and parents before school starts, and upon request. District employees shall not have the authority to waive the testing of any student selected using the random selection process. Refusal by a student to be tested when randomly selected will be considered by the District to be a positive test result for the purposes of this policy, and will subject the student to consequences as outlined within this policy and related procedures.

As a condition of participating in covered activities and privileges, students in grades 7-12 and their parents must consent to random drug testing of the students as further defined in this policy. This random drug testing program does not affect other policies and practices of the Drexel R-IV School District in dealing with drugs or alcohol use or possession where reasonable suspicion is obtained by means other than the random sampling discussed in this policy.

Students who test positive through this random testing program will be excluded from participation in covered activities as follows:

First Offense – Exclusion from all covered activities for a minimum of 30 participation days immediately following notification and must pass a drug test administered by the district prior to resuming participation in covered activities.

Second Offense – Exclusion from all covered activities for a minimum of 90 participation days immediately following notification and must pass a drug test administered by the district prior to resuming participation in covered activities.

Third Offense – Excluded from all covered activities for the rest of the student’s enrollment in the district.

For the purposes of this policy, a “participation day” is each day that the extracurricular group meets, regardless of whether that meeting is a practice, a group meeting, or an event.

The consequences may be reduced if the student successfully participates in drug counseling and additional testing, at the student’s and/or parent’s expense, in accordance with procedures developed by the superintendent or designee.

A positive test through this random testing program will not result in suspension from school or academic sanctions. The district will not report results of random drug tests under this program to law enforcement. Positive random drug test offenses shall be cumulative throughout grades seven through twelve.

Suspicion-Based Drug Testing

Suspicion-based drug testing, unlike random drug testing, may only be used when there is reasonable suspicion that the student is under the influence of or has recently consumed alcohol or any drug prohibited by district policy. Students testing positive will be disciplined in accordance with the district’s discipline policy and may also be excluded from covered activities as determined by the district. A student who refuses to submit to testing may still be disciplined under the district’s discipline code for being under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

* * * * *

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:

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

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)