

STUDENTS

Policy 2922

Activities and Athletics

Drug and Alcohol Testing Program for students involved in Extra-Curricular Activities

The Knox County R-I School District recognizes that alcohol and drug abuse are serious problems today in America, and schools including the Knox County R-I District-are not immune. Even students involved in school-sponsored activities are increasingly using alcohol and are experimenting with other controlled substances. Some students are also attracted to so-called “performance-enhancing” drugs, such as steroids, in misguided efforts to increase their strength and endurance. Private industry, government, schools and colleges throughout the country are paying serious attention to the problems of alcohol and drug use by athletic teams and participation in other extra-curricular activities. The administration of the Knox County R-I School District has noted and documented, both formally and informally, an increase in the use of drugs and alcohol by its students, including those participating in extra-curricular activities.

It is the District’s position that drug usage is inconsistent with the principles of participation in extra-curricular activities. Students representing the School District in extra-curricular activities are respected and admired by a large segment of the student body. To participate in such activities, students are expected to hold themselves as good examples of conduct, citizenship, sportsmanship and training. This includes avoiding drug and alcohol usage. Drug and alcohol use causes serious physical, mental and emotional harm. A student athlete or participate in extra-curricular activities who uses drugs is a danger to him or herself as well as other students. The School District’s students are entitled to drug -free participation in extracurricular activities.

The Knox County R-I School District reserves the right to conduct a program of drug testing for students in extra-curricular activities for the illegal use of controlled substances and alcohol, as defined by applicable law that may present a safety risk during activities. Other purposes of the program include prevention of drug and alcohol usage; education of students and their parents or guardians about the serious physical, mental and emotional harm caused by alcohol and drug abuse; and maintaining a school environment where students can be free from alcohol and drug abuse.

For this purpose, any students participating in any extra-curricular activity practice and/or contest, under the control and jurisdiction of the district will be subject to drug testing the period commencing with first day of practice authorized by the district for any activity and ending on the last day of student participation in that activity. Students who do not participate in the drug-testing program will suffer no adverse consequences, but may not participate in any extra-curricular activities.

The drug-testing program in addition to other policies and practices of the School District in dealing with drug and alcohol possession or use where reasonable suspicion is obtained by means other than the random sampling discussed here.

Consent: The parent or guardian and the student participant will be required to sign a written consent for testing prior to participating in the specific activity. Upon the refusal to be tested, the participant will be suspended from the activity of the remainder of the season.

Medication: Student participants who have been or are taking prescription medication must provide verification (either by copy of the prescription or by a written physician's statement) after testing has shown a positive result. This information may be provided confidentially by the student, or parent or guardian, to the testing laboratory upon request by the school administration. The administration will provide a number, code or other means of identification for the student to provide the laboratory with such information so as not to personally identify the student. Students who refuse to provide information required for verification and who test positive will be subject to the consequences specified for positive tests.

Selection: All student participants may be tested at the beginning of a season. Random testing may be conducted during any season on students participating in that activity. Each student will be assigned an identification code. The Activities Director will maintain one cross-referenced list of names and numbers. Only the Activities Director will have access to this list. Students will have their identification codes drawn by an administrator at random from a pool of all student participants during that season. When a selection for testing is done, the numbers of all students currently participating in activities from the school will be placed in a box and the specified number will be drawn. **Student not participating in continuous activities must be retested when entering another activity later in the year. A student may remain in the random group for the academic year, after the initial testing, and would not have to take another mandatory test to participate.**

Privacy and Confidentiality: Parents of students who are under 18 and who still have the right to access of student records will receive all information applicable to the testing of their children under this policy. All information and records relating to a student's participation in the testing program under this policy shall remain confidential and shall be maintained in a separate file.

The contracted laboratory will collect the samples. The laboratory will use the standard testing procedures.

Testing: Testing will be administrated by urinalysis. Appropriate steps will be taken to respect the privacy of students while at the same time preventing the falsification of the testing. Testing procedures shall be conducted according to procedures designed to ensure the integrity of specimens and chain of custody of specimens.

Testing laboratories will be given a student's name or personally identifiable information about a student. All students tested during a season will be tested for the same substance. Students will be given reasonable notice under the circumstances of the time, place and manner in which they'll be required to provide a sample. Test results will remain confidential, and will only be released on a 2 need to know basis in accordance with applicable law.

Positive Test: If a student's test is positive, a second test will be administered as soon as possible to confirm the initial results. If the second test is negative, no further action will be taken. If the second test is positive, the student and his/her parent will be notified. Coaches and sponsors will not be informed for which substance or substances a student tested positive.

Consequences: Consequences for positive results shall be suspension from participation in all extra-curricular activities until the student tests negative. At a minimum, the student will be suspended from the activity in which he or she was participating for ten days. After a student tests positive, any additional testing or education and counseling required of the student in order to participate shall be at the expense of the student, parents or guardian. If a student tests positive a second time during any season in one school year, he or she will be suspended from all extra-curricular activities for that school year. As a condition of further participation in extra-curricular activities after a student tests positive, the student shall be subject to additional non-random testing for a period of one calendar year from the date of the positive test at such times as the administration shall determine. Such additional drug testing shall otherwise follow the same procedures utilizing in initial drug testing. The refusal to submit to additional testing during such period or a second positive test during such period shall disqualify a student from further participation in extra-curricular activities for a period of one calendar year subject to testing in the same manner as applicable to other students participating in extra-curricular activities.

Appeals: Students may appeal any suspension or disqualification from activities under this policy.

***Extra-Curricular activities are voluntary in participation; these activities are competition between other school districts or school-sponsored clubs.**

Activities that fall under the testing program:

Baseball (grades 9-12)

Basketball (grades 7-12)

Campus Bowl (grades 7-12)

Cheerleading (grades 7-12)

Dance Team (Grades 9-12)

FBLA (Grades 9-12)

FFA (grades 9-12)

Flags (grades 7-12)

Football (grades 7-12)

Marching Band (grades 7-12)

Pep Band (grades 7-12)

Concert Band (grades 7-12)

Softball (grades 7-12)

Track (grades 7-12)

Vocal Music –Honor Choir (grades 7-12)

Appendix A

Controlled Substances Screened in Drug Testing

Amphetamines

Barbiturates

Benzodiazepines

Cocaine Metabolites

Marijuana Metabolites

Methadone

Methaqualone

Opiates

Phencyclidine

Propoxyphene

Alcohol

Appendix B

Other Substances Screened in Drug Testing

Creatinine

Nitrites

pH

Adopted: April 17, 2012

Knox County R-I School District, Edina, Missouri

