

Extracurricular Activities Drug- Testing Program

The District has a strong commitment to the health, safety, and welfare of its students. Results of studies throughout the United States indicate that education alone, as a preventative measure, is not effective in combating substance abuse. Our commitment to maintaining the extracurricular activities in the District as a safe and secure educational environment requires a clear policy and supportive programs relating to detection, treatment, and prevention of substance abuse by students involved in extracurricular activities.

Purpose

The drug-testing program is not intended to be disciplinary or punitive in nature. Students involved in extracurricular activities need to be exemplary in eyes of the community and other students. It is the purpose of this program to prevent students from participating in extracurricular activities while they have drug residues in their bodies, and it is the purpose of this program to educate, help, and direct students away from drug and alcohol abuse and toward a healthy and drug-free participation. No student shall be expelled or suspended from school as a result of any verified positive test conducted by his/her school under this program, other than as state herein.

Scope

Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege. This policy applies to all District students in grades 9-12 who wish to participate in extracurricular activities that are listed in the current student handbook and any other school sponsored extracurricular activities not listed.

Consent Form

It is MANDATORY that each student who participates in extracurricular activities sign and return the Consent Form prior to participation in any extracurricular activity. Failure to comply will result in non-participation.

Each extracurricular participant shall be provided with the Consent Form (3350F), which shall be dated and signed by the participant and by the parent/guardian. In so doing, the student is agreeing to participate in the random drug-testing programs at Poplar High School.

Testing Procedures

1. Each Student athlete will be tested at the start of each season and tested randomly throughout the season. The selection of participants for the random drug testing will be done by the principal/administrative designee from time to time throughout the school year.
2. If the student shows signs of reasonable suspicion, the principal/administrative designee may call the student's parent/guardian and ask that the student be tested. Factors will include, but not

limited to, excessive discipline problems and/or excessive absences from school. Also, a parent/guardian may request testing of his/her student.

3. No student will be given advance notice of early warning of the testing. In addition, a strict chain of custody will be enforced to eliminate invalid test or outside influences.

4. Upon being selected for a urinalysis test under this policy, either by random draw, reasonable suspicion, request of a parent/guardian, or the follow-up test, a student will be required to provide a sample of fresh urine, according to the quality control standards and policy of the laboratory conducting the urinalysis.

5. All students will remain under school supervision until they have produced an adequate urine specimen. If unable to produce a specimen, the student will be given up to twenty-four (24) ounces of fluid. If still unable to produce a specimen within two (2) hours, the student will be taken to the principal's office and told he/she is no longer eligible for any of the extracurricular activities. In addition, the parent's/guardian will be telephoned and informed the student is unable to produce a sample for the testing procedure and that he/she may be tested at a later date to be reinstated for eligibility.

6. There is a head strip of each of the specimen bottles, indicating the validity of the urine specimen by temperature. All specimens registering below 90.5 degrees Fahrenheit will be invalid. If this occurs, another specimen must be given by the student.

7. If it is proven that tampering or cheating has occurred during the collection, the student will be ineligible for all the extracurricular activities for the remainder of the school year. This will be reported by the parent/guardian.

8. Immediately after the specimen is taken, the student may return to class with an admit slip or pass with the time he/she left the collection site. The principal/administrative designee must time and sign the pass.

9. The specimen will be tested by the school nurse. If the test is positive the specimen will be sent to a testing laboratory for confirmation. The specimen will be tested for alcohol, nicotine, and street drugs (which may include all drugs listed as controlled substances under the laws of the State of Montana). Also, performance enhancing drugs such as steroids may be tested.

10. The laboratory selected must follow the standards set by the Department of Health and Human Services. It must be certified under the auspices of the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Act (CLIA) and Joint Commission of Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (ICAHO).

Chain of Custody

1. The school nurse will receive training on collection and testing procedures. To maintain anonymity, the student's number, not name, will be used.

2. The principal/administrative designee will be responsible for escorting students to the collection site. The student should bring all materials with his/her to the collection site and should not be allowed to go to his/her locker. (The administrator should not bring all the students drawn from the pool to the collection site simultaneously. Call four (4) or five (5) students at a time allows the collections to be carried out quickly and will not cause students to wait a long time, thereby creating a loss of important time from class. Athletes may be called after school, perhaps during practice time.)
3. Before the students' urine is tested by the school nurse, students will agree to fill out, sign, and date any form which may be required by the testing laboratory. If a student chooses, he/she may notify the administrator that he/she is taking a prescription medication.
4. A sanitized kit containing a specimen bottle will be given to each student. The bottle will remain in the student's possession until a seal is placed upon the bottle. The student will sign that the specimen has been sealed. The seal may be broken only by the lab testing the specimen.
5. If the seal is tampered with or broken after leaving the student's possession and prior to arriving at the lab, the specimen is invalid. The student will be called again as soon as possible. The student will remain eligible for extracurricular activities subsequent to a retest.
6. The supervisor obtaining the urine specimen will be the same gender as the student. Students will be instructed to remove all coats and wash their hands in the presence of the supervisor prior to entering the restroom. The door will be closed so that the student is by himself/herself in the restroom to provide a urine specimen. The supervisor will wait outside the restroom. The student will have two (2) minutes to produce a urine specimen. The commode will contain a blue dye so the water cannot be used to dilute the sample. The faucets in the restrooms will be shut off.
7. After it has been sealed, the specimen will be transported to the testing laboratory by the school nurse. The testing laboratory will report the results to the principal/administrative designee.
8. In order to maintain confidentiality, the container which contains the urine specimen to be tested will not have the name of the student on the container. Instead, the student's random identification number will appear on the container. Also, the results sheet for the urinalysis will be mailed to the principal/administrative designee with no name attached, only the student's random identification number will appear on the results sheet.

Test Results

1. This program seeks to provide needed help for students who have a verified positive test. The student's health, welfare, and safety will be the reason for preventing students from participation in extracurricular activities.
2. The principal/administrative designee will be notified of a student testing positive (that is if the test shows that drug residues are in the student's system after using at least two (2) different types of analysis). The principal/administrative designee will notify the student and

his/her parent/guardian. The student or his/her guardian may submit any documented prescription, explanation, or information which will be considered in determining whether a positive test has been satisfactorily explained.

3. If the test is verified positive, the principal/administrative designee will meet with the student and his/her parent/guardian at the school. The student and parent/guardian will be given the names of counseling and assistance agencies that the family may want to contact for help. The student will be prevented from participation in extracurricular activities until after a follow-up test is requested by the principal/administrative designee and the results are reported.

4. A follow-up test will be requested by the principal/administrative designee after such an interval of time that the substance previously found would normally have been eliminated from the body. If this follow-up test is negative, the student will be allowed to resume extracurricular activities. If a second positive result is obtained from the follow-up test or any later test of that participant, the same previous procedure shall be followed. In addition, the District reserves the right to continue testing, at any time during the remaining school year, any participating student who tested positive and did not make satisfactory explanation.

5. Information on a verified positive test result will be shared on a need-to-know basis with the student's coach or sponsor. The results of negative tests will be kept confidential to protect the identity of all students being tested.

6. Drug testing result sheets will be returned to the principal/administrative designee, identifying students by number and not by name. Names of students tested will not be kept in open files or on any computer. Result sheets will be locked and secured in a location to which only the principal/administrative designee has access.

Financial Responsibility

1. Under this policy, the District will pay for all initial random drug tests, all initial reasonable suspicion drug tests, and all initial follow-up drug tests. (Once a student has a verified positive test result and has subsequently tested negative from a follow-up test, any future follow-up drug test that must be conducted will be paid for the student or his/her parent/guardian.)

2. A request on appeal for another test of a positive urine specimen is the financial responsibility of the student or his/her parents/guardian.

3. Counseling and subsequent treatment by non-school agencies are the financial responsibility of the student or his/her parent/guardian.

Confidentiality

Under this drug-testing program, any staff, coach, or sponsor of the District who may have knowledge of the results of a drug test will not divulge to anyone the results of the test or the

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disposition of the student involved, other than in the case of a legal subpoena being made upon that person in the course of a legal investigation. Once again, this will underscore the District's commitment to confidentiality with regard to the program.

Other rules

Apart from this drug-testing program, the Montana High School Association and the coaching staff/sponsor of each sports/activity have their own training rules and requirements.

Coaches/sponsors have the necessary authority to enforce those rules. Any student who violates a rule or requirement as a member of a team or activity will be subject to the consequences as defined in those rules and requirements.

Legal Reference:

Policy History:

Adopted on:

Revised on: