

OVERVIEW OF RANDOM DRUG TESTING OF STUDENTS

Goal

To establish a random drug testing program for Duluth Public School students in an effort to deter students from the use of illegal drugs and to identify students who are using illegal drugs in order to provide an opportunity for intervention and treatment. This program also provides strong rationale for students to just say "NO"!

Student Eligibility

The following groups of students will be eligible for random suspicionless drug testing:

A. Pledge Makers

Duluth Public Schools students who are members of the "Pledge Makers" organization who sign a promise not to use illegal drugs. The student and at least one (1) parent must give a signed consent for drug testing.

B. Co-Curricular Participants

Duluth Public Schools students who choose to exercise the privilege of participating in co-curricular activities that are defined in the Co-Curricular Code of Conduct. Student participants registering for co-curricular activities will be provided with a consent form. The completion of the consent form by the student participant and, if the student is a minor, his/her parents or guardians, constitutes express permission and agreement that the student will submit to random suspicionless drug testing. Signing the consent, and adherence to the conditions thereafter, shall be a condition for participation in co-curricular activities.

C. Students Who Register to Park a Motor Vehicle in a DPS High School Parking Lot

Duluth Public Schools students who choose to exercise the privilege of parking a motor vehicle in a high school parking lot during the school day. High School students may apply for a parking permit. The parking permit application will include a consent agreement by which a student and at least one (1) parent or guardian, if the student is a minor, will agree the student is to be eligible for random suspicionless drug testing.

Penalties for violations or refusal to complete a random drug test

- A. MSHSL and District policy will apply for penalties involving MSHSL Co-Curricular participants. .
- B. Other Non MSHSL Co-Curricular participants will serve community service hours
- C. Parking privileges will be revoked for a predetermined amount of time

Substances Tested

Any illegal drug including alcohol. This includes amphetamine, methamphetamine, barbiturates, cocaine, codeine/morphine, alcohol, benzodiazepines, phencyclidine, steroids, LSD and marijuana (THC). Drugs may be exempted if a legal and current prescription for use can be provided within forty-eight (48) hours of testing.

Random Selection of Students Participating for Testing

Students eligible in each pool of students (Pledge Makers, co-curricular participants, students requesting parking permits) will be assigned a number by school administration. Random draws of numbers will be conducted weekly. A designated number of student participant numbers will be drawn each week.

Relationship with Authorities

- A. Any alcohol, illegal drugs, illegal controlled substance, or illegal items confiscated by school authorities in the course of an investigation will be turned over to the appropriate law enforcement authority.
- B. After appropriate action has been taken, the school authorities may make a referral to an appropriate agency or student assistance program.

Confidentiality

The fact that a student has been found in violation of this policy, including the results of any drug or alcohol tests administered, shall be kept confidential and only disclosed to the extent allowed by State and Federal law.

Positive Results/Consequences

Students who test positive for illegal drugs will be subject to consequences as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct and the MSHSL. If the result is positive, the student is given an explanation by the principal/designee. Parents will be notified by phone of the positive test results. The student and parents will be given an opportunity to explain any possible reason for the positive test to the Medical Review Officer of the testing lab. Parents will have an opportunity for re-testing at a certified laboratory of the family's choice, at the family's expense. School Staff and/or Administration will work to connect Students and families to local resources.

Retesting

Students will have an opportunity within the twenty-four (24) hours of notification of the first positive test result to have the specimen re-tested in a certified laboratory of the family's choice and at the family's expense. The principal and/or administrative designee may consult with medical professionals to evaluate the results of the re-test, taking into consideration any evidence offered by the student and/or family. Should the re-test confirm a positive result, and there is not a satisfactory explanation for the positive results, all consequences specified will apply.

Cost

- A. Without Alcohol: $\$32 \times 4 \text{ tests} \times 36 \text{ wks} = \4608
 With Alcohol: $\$35 \times 4 \text{ tests} \times 36 \text{ wks} = \5040
- B. Administrative and associated cost involving dedicated time to program

Potential Next Steps

- A. Gain feedback from Education Committee regarding random drug testing
- B. Draft Duluth Public Schools Policy spring and summer 2014
- C. Share with staff, students, families, and community 2014-15 school year
- D. Implement 2015-16 school year
- E. Review and improve spring 2016