

# **NORTHWESTERN R-I SCHOOL DISTRICT DRUG TESTING POLICY GRADES 7-12**

## **Background and Purpose**

Drug abuse is a serious problem. Schools, including Northwestern R-I School District, are not immune. Even students in extracurricular activities are increasingly using alcohol and are experimenting with “street drugs” such as marijuana and methamphetamine.

The educational program and drug testing program described in this policy are part of an overall attempt to give the students of the Northwestern R-I School District an option to not participate in the use of any type of drug. The goal is not to punish but rather to aid in the discovery and prevention of possible drug-related problems. The key component of this program is opening the lines of communication between students and parents about the serious matter of drug usage and abuse.

A student using drugs is a danger to him/herself as well as other students. All students in the Northwestern R-I School District who choose to participate in extracurricular activities and those who choose to park on school property are entitled to do so in a drug-free environment.

*As a condition of participating in extracurricular activities and receiving a parking pass to park on school property, middle and high school students and their parents must consent to random drug testing of the students as further defined in this policy and administrative procedures.*

This program does not affect other policies and practices of the Northwestern R-I School District in dealing with drugs or alcohol use or possession where reasonable suspicion is obtained by means other than the mandatory and random sampling discussed here.

All students who will participate in extracurricular activities during the school year and who complete and return the consent forms within the deadlines set by the superintendent or designee will be included in the testing pool and may be selected for testing as soon as the student is officially enrolled in the drug testing program, even if the extracurricular activity has not yet begun. If a student is 18 years of age and living with a parent/guardian, he/she still must have both student and parent/guardian signatures. If the student is 18 years of age and has established a residence on his/her own, the student's signature is all that is required.

00336048.1

## **Definitions**

*Extracurricular Activities:* Activities that take place outside the regular course of study in school.

*Performances:* The scheduled games, matches, contests or performances (including district, sectional and state contests) for the activities listed above.

*Consent Form:* The parent/guardian drug testing consent form, which is adopted by district administration.

*Illegal Drugs:* The use, possession, distribution, sale or solicitation of alcohol, drugs (their imitators), unauthorized prescription or non-prescription drugs, drug-related paraphernalia, narcotic substances, marijuana or other intoxicants and any other substances, which an individual may not sell, possess, use, distribute, or purchase under either federal or Missouri law.

*Positive Test Result:* When referring to a drug test administered under this policy, a toxicological test result which 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.

*Parking on School Property:* Any student who parks on school property during the school day. The car(s) that the student regularly parks must be registered with the high school office. The student is required to park in the designated student parking lot on school property.

*SAMSHA:* Substance Abuse Mental Safety Health Administration

## **Privacy and Confidentiality**

The testing method to be administered will be urinalysis. Appropriate steps will be taken to respect the privacy of students while, simultaneously, preventing falsification of testing. Upon receiving a notice from the administration that the student has been selected for a random drug test, the student will go to an assigned area and wait until it is his/her turn to produce specimen. A representative of the Northwestern R-I School Administration or School Nurse will be available during the testing procedure.

Prior to being called by the test administrator (from the pre-established drug testing company), the student will proceed to the testing site. The student will present the identification number to the test administrator, who will record that number on the test's recording form. The test administrator will then ask the student to remove hats and outer garments (if any) and place the contents of the pockets on the testing table. The student will be allowed to return any non-containers to his/her person. The student will then be

00336048.1

asked to select a collection cup and instructed to open the cup and dump the contents on the table. The test administrator will accompany the students to the restroom, where the student will be instructed to place the collection cup on a ledge or counter and then wash his/her hands. The test administrator will have placed blue dye into the toilet in the restroom and will have taped off all but one sink, prior to the student testing or as the student is washing. When the student finishes drying his/her hands, the test administrator will instruct the student to step into a pre-selected stall and void into the collection cup. The student will also be asked not to flush any toilet or use any faucet. The test administrator will then step out of the restroom, or behind the restroom outer wall, until the student completes the void, comes out of the stall, and places the collection cup on the pre-arranged flat surface.

When the test administrator re-enters the restroom, he/she will take the collection cup and determine if there is a sufficient specimen to test, that the specimen has an appropriate temperature, and that there is no foreign color or odor to the specimen. (If any of the above takes place, the test administrator will reject the specimen and collect a second specimen). If the specimen is acceptable for testing, the student will be asked to again wash his/her hands and then stand by the entrance of the restroom (keeping the specimen in his/her sight). The test administrator will then open a screening test device and place it in the specimen. When the test administrator completes the screening process, the student will be permitted to leave the test area, unless the initial screen indicates the presence of a drug included on the school's testing agenda. If the screening test indicates a positive screen, the verification process will be implemented. Each urine sample will split specimens. This means that each sample collection will be placed into two separate samples.

If a student is unable to produce a urine sample, the student will undergo a time limit of three (3) hours in order to produce a sample. At that time if the student is still unable to produce a sample, the student must make an appointment with a doctor to see if a medical reason exists to explain the inability to produce a urine sample.

The test results will remain confidential and will only be released to the student, his/her parents or guardians, and approved school officials. Regardless of a positive test or not, parents will be notified through a letter that their child was randomly tested at school that day. In addition, the test results will not be used for student discipline and will not become part of the student's permanent record/transcript or communicated to any other party. All files regarding the participants in the program, as well as test results, shall be kept strictly

confidential and will be kept separate from the mandatory school files required for each student. If the student tests positive, the results will only be used to determine eligibility for participation in extracurricular activities as defined in this policy and for eligibility for a student parking pass. The results will not be used to suspend or expel a student from school, will not be included in student's disciplinary record, and will not be communicated to any other party unless the school district is subpoenaed. Parents may voluntarily place their child in the random sampling drug testing procedure.

00336048.1

**Verification of Sample**

Verification of sample will vary with the drug testing company that is hired to do random testing with the school district. The testing will be in three separate stages to make sure there is validity.

**Disclosure of Other Medications**

Upon confirmation by a SAMSHA – certified laboratory of a positive specimen, the parents of the student will be asked to bring any prescription medications the student is currently taking to a meeting with the designated school official. The official will then verify with either the school nurse or the test administrator (or the administrator's company representative) the validity of the medication producing the positive result. If the medication produces a legitimate medical reason for the presence of the drug, the results will be deemed as negative. If there is not legitimate or acceptable medical explanation, the positive result will remain. Proof of medication can be given through the presentation of a prescription bottle or through doctor verification.

**Activities included in the Drug Testing Policy:**

Softball	Basketball	Track
Baseball	Band/Choir	Scholar Bowl
Cheer	Student Council	Parking on Campus
FCCLA	FFA	FBLA
NHS	Any extra-curricular trip/field trip	Cross Country

**Consequences**

**First Offense:** The student shall be suspended from participation in all school-sponsored

activities and/or student parking privileges on school property for a period of 30 calendar days from when the test results are determined by the test administrator. The student must also submit to a mandatory retest at the end of the suspension, at the expense of the school.

**Second Offense:** The student shall be suspended from participation in all school-sponsored activities and/or student parking privileges on school property for a period of 30 calendar days from when the test results are determined by the test administrator. If a student completes a drug treatment program (one approved by the school district), fifteen (15) days may be subtracted from the suspension at the discretion of the superintendent or his or her designee. This may only take place if an approved drug treatment program was completed. The student must also submit to a mandatory retest at the end of the suspension, at the expense of the school.

00336048.1

**Third Offense:** Following a third confirmed positive test result, the student shall be suspended from participating in all inter-scholastic athletics, extra-curricular activities, public performances, and on-campus parking for a minimum period of 365 calendar days.

A student who has initially consented to be tested may refuse to be tested, but if he/she chooses to do so, he/she will immediately be suspended from participating in extracurricular activities and/or the privilege of parking on school property for 365 calendar days. Any student who refuses to re-test after a failed test will be considered to have committed the next offense level.

**In order for the student to be reinstated to extracurricular activities and/or park on school property, he/she must take another drug test at the expense of the school district. This test must show negative for drugs in the system. The lab testing facility must be pre approved by the school district, and the test must include the substances tested for in the school testing program. The student can attend practice sessions, continue to attend team functions and sit with fellow participants during the activities but not participate.** After a student tests positive for illegal substances, he/she will be subject to non-random testing at the request of the administration for the remainder of the student's participation in extracurricular activities and/or parking on school property in the designated student areas for the current school year.

**Drugs that Northwestern R-I School District maybe testing for:**

THC = Marijuana

ALC= Alcohol

BZO = Benzodiazepines

COC = Cocaine

PCP = Phencyclidine

MAMP = Methamphetamine  
MTD = Methadone  
OPI = Opiates  
AMP = Amphetamines  
BAR = Barbiturates  
TCA = Tricyclic Antidepressants  
MDMA = Ecstasy  
PPX = Propoxyphene  
OXY = Oxycodone  
STER=Steroids

The school district will pay for all random drug screenings.