

**STRAFFORD R-VI SCHOOL DISTRICT
EXTRACURRICULAR AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITY STUDENT DRUG
TESTING POLICY**

The Strafford Board of Education recognizes that drug use is one of the most serious problems confronting our community and, in an effort to protect the health and safety of its students from illegal drug use and abuse or injuries resulting from the use of drugs, thereby setting an example for all students of the Strafford R-VI School District, adopts the following policy for drug testing of students participating in extracurricular and/or co-curricular activities.

Statement of Purpose and Intent

It is the desire of the Strafford Board of Education, administration, and staff that every student in the Strafford R-VI School District refrain from using, possessing, or distributing illegal drugs. The sanctions of this policy relate solely to limiting the opportunity of any student in violation of this policy to participate in extracurricular and/or co-curricular activities. This policy is intended to supplement and complement all other policies, rules, and regulations of the Strafford R-VI School District regarding possession or use of illegal drugs.

Participation in school sponsored extracurricular and/or co-curricular activities at the Strafford R-VI School District is a privilege. Accordingly, students in extracurricular and/or co-curricular activities carry a responsibility to themselves, their fellow students, their parents and/or guardians and their school to set the highest possible examples of conduct, which includes avoiding the use of illegal drugs.

The purpose of this policy is to prevent illegal drug use and to strive within the Strafford R-VI School District for an environment free of illegal drug use and abuse. The

sanctions of this policy relate solely to limiting the opportunity of any student found to be in violation of this policy to participate in extracurricular and/or co-curricular activities.

If the discipline policy of the school district is violated with respect to alcohol and drugs, the student will be subject to the penalties of the discipline policy. The violation will also be counted as a violation of this policy.

Use of illegal drugs (as defined below) is incompatible with participation in extracurricular and/or co-curricular activities of the school district. For safety, health and well-being of the students of the school district, the district has adopted this policy for use by all students participating in extracurricular and/or co-curricular activities in grades 9-12.

DRUG TESTING PROCEDURE

Each student participating in extracurricular and/or co-curricular activities shall receive copies of the "Student Extracurricular and/or Co-Curricular Activities Drug Testing Policy" and "Student Extracurricular and/or Co-Curricular Activities Drug Testing Consent" form which shall be read, signed, and dated by the student, parent and/or guardian. Students must turn in the "Student Extracurricular and/or Co-Curricular Activities Testing Consent" form to the high school office within the first 10 days of school before the student will be allowed to continue or to begin practice or participation in any extracurricular and/or co-curricular activity. Any student who does not turn in the required forms by this time will not be eligible to participate in any extracurricular and/or co-curricular activity during the remainder of the school year, including the months of May through August when school may or may not be in session.

Transfer students who intend to participate in extracurricular and/or co-curricular activities have 10 school days from the date of enrollment in the District to turn in to the high school office the "Student Extracurricular and/or Co-Curricular Activities Testing Consent" form. Once a transfer student turns in the form, he/she will be placed in the testing pool within one week. If the transfer student fails to turn in the form within the required 10-day period, he/she will not be eligible to participate in any extracurricular and/or co-curricular activity during the remainder of the school year, including the months of May through August when school may or may not be in session.

Students in extracurricular and co-curricular groups to be drug tested include, but are not limited to the following: interscholastic sports, cheerleading, band, flag corps, jazz band, choir, speech and debate, drama club (theatre), Future Farmers of America (FFA), Family, Community and Career Leaders of America (FCCLA), Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), Future Teachers of America (FTA), academic team, student council, National Honor Society (NHS), art club, and science club. Student dances are not considered extracurricular and/or co-curricular activities.

Definitions

Co-curricular activities-activities that students participate in outside of the classroom as a result of being enrolled in a school-offered class.

Extracurricular activities - activities that take place outside the regular course of study in school.

Drug Use Test - scientifically substantiated method to test for the presence of illegal drugs in a person's urine.

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 lexicological 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.

Reasonable Suspicion — a suspicion based on specific personal observations concerning the appearance, speech, or behavior of a participating student, and reasonable inferences drawn from those observations in the light of experience. Information provided by a reliable source, if based on personal knowledge, shall constitute reasonable suspicion.

Procedure

Students will be required to provide urine samples as follows:

1. On a random selection basis during the regular school year, students will be chosen at the frequency and volume deemed necessary to insure the effectiveness of the program from a list of all students participating in extracurricular and/or co-curricular activities; and
2. At any time requested based on reasonable suspicion to be tested for illegal drugs.

Any drug test required by the school district under the terms of the policy will be administered by or at the direction of a professional laboratory chosen by the school district using scientifically validated toxicological methods. The professional laboratory shall be required to have detailed written specifications to assure chain of custody of the specimens, proper laboratory control, and scientific testing.

All aspects of the drug-use testing program, including the taking of specimens, will be conducted so as to safeguard the personal and privacy rights of students to the maximum degree possible. The test specimen shall be obtained in a manner designed to minimize the intrusiveness of the procedure. In particular, the student will be allowed to give the specimen in a private restroom behind a closed door. The monitor shall wait outside the door until the specimen has been produced. The student will hand the specimen to the monitor who will thereafter verify the normal warmth and appearance of the specimen. The monitor will then test the specimen. If at any time during the testing procedure the monitor has reason to believe or suspect that a student is tampering with

the specimen, the monitor may stop the procedure and inform the principal who will then determine if a new sample should be obtained.

If, during the drug testing procedure, a student delays urination beyond a reasonable period of time indicating an attempt to tamper with the specimen or otherwise interfere with the monitor's ability to detect illegal drugs, or if there is a reasonable suspicion of use of a test-altering substance, the district may send the sample to the drug lab for more specific and accurate tests regardless of whether the initial test is negative. If the initial drug test is positive, the initial test result will then be subject to confirmation by a second and different test of the same specimen. In order to keep the results of the initial testing confidential, the district may also choose a certain number of samples for a confirmation test. The second test will use gas chromatography/mass spectrometry technique. A specimen shall not be reported positive unless the second test utilizing the gas chromatography/mass spectrometry procedure is positive for the presence of an illegal drug or the metabolites thereof.

If the gas chromatography/mass spectrometry test for any student has a positive result, the laboratory will contact the parents or guardians and solicit any information on medication, which would create a positive test. A medical review officer will confirm the positive result and contact the principal with the results. Once a positive is determined, the student will become ineligible to practice, compete or participate in any and/or co-curricular activity.

Appeal Procedure

Within five (5) working days of receipt of the positive test results, the principal will contact the athletic director, coach/sponsor, and/or other individual responsible for supervising the extracurricular or co-curricular activity who will then, within five (5) working days contact the student, the parent or custodial guardian to schedule a conference. The conference shall be held within ten (10) working days of initial contact with the student and parent or custodial guardian. If the student, parent or custodial guardian refuses to participate or respond to a request for a conference, the student will be deemed to have waived any right to further appeal the positive result.

If the conference is held, the principal will solicit any explanation of the positive result. If the student asserts that the positive test results are caused by something other than consumption of an illegal drug, then the student, parent or custodial guardian will be given ten (10) working days from the date of the conference to present evidence of such to the principal. If the student fails to or refuses to present any evidence within the 10-day period, the student will be deemed to have waived any right to further appeal the positive result. The school district will rely on the opinion of the laboratory, which performed the confirmation test in determining whether the positive test result was produced by something other than consumption of an illegal drug. The principal will make a decision within five (5) working days of presentation of the student's evidence.

This decision may be appealed in writing to the school district's superintendent within five (5) working days. Failure to appeal to the superintendent waives any further right to appeal the positive test result. The procedures set forth under Policy JGD

regarding student discipline hearings (paragraphs 1-3) will be followed in case of appeal. The superintendent will make a written decision within five (5) working days.

The decision of the superintendent may be appealed in writing to the Board of Education within five (5) working days. Failure to appeal to the Board of Education

waives any further right to appeal. The procedures set forth under Policy JGD regarding student discipline hearings (paragraphs 1-3) will be followed in case of appeal.

Initiating appeal procedures does not suspend imposition of the restrictions listed below while the appeal process is ongoing.

If a student tests negative in the initial screening, the student, parent or custodial guardian will be contacted by personnel of the school district within five (5) working days of testing.

Retest After Service of Suspension

A student who has tested positive and has served the required suspension period will be required to undergo one or more additional drug-use tests to determine whether the student is no longer using illegal drugs before he or she may rejoin an extracurricular and/or co-curricular activity.

Confidentiality

Test results shall be kept in confidential separate files separate from a student's other educational records and released to school personnel only on a "need-to-know" basis.

Violations

Any students who test positive in a drug-use test under this procedure shall be subject to the following restrictions:

First Offense

1. The student shall be suspended from participation in all extracurricular and/or co-curricular activities including all meetings, practices, performances, and competitions for 45 calendar days. During this time, it is recommended that the parent/guardian obtain a substance abuse evaluation and education/counseling for the student. Students who are enrolled in a class that involves co-curricular activities will remain in the class during the 45 calendar days and may participate in classroom activities, but may not participate in any activities outside of the regularly scheduled class time.

If because of the suspension, the student is unable to participate in an activity, which constitutes a portion of the student's grade, the student will be given the opportunity to complete alternative assignments so that the student can earn the same grade as he would have had he been allowed to participate in the activity.

Second Offense

2. The student shall be suspended from participation in all extracurricular and/or co-curricular activities including all meetings, practices, performances, and

competitions for 52 continuous and successive weeks (365 days) from the date of the initial report of the second offense as stated in this procedure.

If, because of the suspension, the student is unable to participate in an activity, which constitutes a portion of the student's grade, the student will be given the opportunity to complete alternative assignments so that the student can earn the same grade as he would have had he been allowed to participate in the activity.

Third Offense

3. The student shall be suspended from participation in all extracurricular and/or co-curricular activities including all meetings, practices, performances, and competitions for the length of the student's enrollment at Strafford R-VI School District from the date of the initial report of the third offense as stated in this procedure.

If, because of the suspension, the student is unable to participate in an activity, which constitutes a portion of the student's grade, the student will be given the opportunity to complete alternative assignments so that the student can earn the same grade as he would have had he been allowed to participate in the activity.

Refusal to Submit to Drug Use Test

Students who refuse to submit to a drug -use test authorized under this policy will be subject to the following restrictions:

First Offense

1. The student shall be ineligible to participate in any extracurricular and/or co-curricular activities including all meetings, practices, performances, and competitions for 45 calendar days and until such time that a drug-use test has been administered and

passed. After the 45 calendar days, the participating student shall again be subject to the Strafford R-VI School District Drug Testing Policy.

Second Offense

2. The student shall be ineligible to participate in any extracurricular and/or co-curricular activities, including all meetings, practices, performances, and competitions for 52 weeks (365 days) and until such time that a drug-use test has been administered and passed. After the 52 weeks, the participating student shall again be subject to the Strafford R-VI School District Drug Testing Policy.

Third Offense

3. The student shall be ineligible to participate in any extracurricular and/or co-curricular activities including all meetings, practices, performances, and competitions for the length of the student's enrollment at Strafford R-VI School District from the date of the third refusal forward.

Any student who has a positive initial test and refuses to cooperate in arranging for a confirmation test will be treated as refusing to submit to testing.