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Random Drug-Testing Program

The District requires drug testing of any student in grades 7–12 who chooses to participate in school-sponsored extracurricular activities.

Covered Activities

School-sponsored extracurricular activities for which testing is required include all interscholastic athletics, cheerleading, drill team, academic clubs, special interest clubs, musical performances, dramatic productions, student government, fine arts organizations, industrial technology and agricultural organizations, and any other activity or group that participates in contests, competitions, demonstrations, or community service projects on behalf of or as a representative of the District.

Scope

A student participating in these activities shall be tested for the presence of illegal drugs and/or alcohol at the beginning of each school year and prior to joining an extracurricular program at any time during the school year.

In addition, students shall be randomly tested throughout the school year.

A student shall also be required to provide breath, saliva, hair, or urine samples, whichever are appropriate as determined by the administration, when there is reasonable suspicion that the student is under the influence of illegal drugs or alcohol at school or at a school-related event, whether such event occurs on- or off-campus. A student who is involved in extracurricular activities who is found to have possessed, distributed, used, or been under the influence of an illegal drug or alcohol while on school property or to have failed a drug use or alcohol test shall also be subject to the same consequences and requirements as specified by the mandatory drug testing program.

Purpose

The purposes of the drug-testing program are to:

- 1. Prevent injury, illness, and harm resulting from the use of illegal and performance-enhancing drugs or alcohol;
- 2. Help enforce a drug-free educational environment;
- 3. Deter student use of illegal and performance-enhancing drugs or alcohol;
- 4. Give students a valid reason to resist peer pressure to use illegal drugs or alcohol; and
- 5. Educate students regarding the harm caused by the use of illegal and performance-enhancing drugs or alcohol.

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Distribution of

Policy

The District shall provide each parent and student with information about the drug-testing policy and regulations and with appropriate consent form(s) prior to the student's participation in an affected activity.

Orientation Meetings

The District shall conduct a meeting with parents and interested student participants at approximately the beginning of the fall practice period each school year.

District employees shall explain the drug-testing program, review the policy and consent form, and provide an educational presentation on the harmful effects of drug and alcohol abuse.

Consent

Before a student is eligible to participate in extracurricular activities, the student shall be required to sign a consent form agreeing to be subject to the rules and procedures of the drug-testing program. If the student is under the age of 18, the student's parent or guardian shall also sign a consent form. If appropriate consent is not given, the student shall not be allowed to participate in extracurricular activities. The form will only have to be signed once and will be valid for the entire time the student is enrolled in the District. The consent form may be rescinded at any time at the parent's or student's written request. A student whose consent has been rescinded shall forfeit the privilege of participating in extracurricular activities following the date of rescission.

Use of Results

Drug test results shall be used only to determine eligibility for participation in extracurricular activities. Positive drug test results shall not be used to impose disciplinary sanctions or academic penalties.

Nevertheless, nothing in this regulation shall limit or affect the application of state law, local policy, or the Student Code of Conduct.

Confidentiality

Drug test results shall be confidential and shall be disclosed only to the student, the student's parents, and designated District officials who need the information in order to administer the drug-testing program. Drug test results shall not be maintained with a student's academic record. Results shall not be otherwise disclosed except as required by law.

Should a student, who has experienced a suspension of participation in extracurricular activities under this regulation for testing positive, transfer to another school and tryout for extracurricular activities, the Superintendent shall acknowledge on the UIL Previous Athletic Participation Form that the student was suspended from participation in extracurricular activities for a violation of policy without further elaboration. The student's parent or guardian may, however, be required by the UIL District Executive Committee to

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further explain the suspension in order to be eligible to participate at the new school.

Testing Laboratory

The Board shall contract with a certified drug-testing laboratory to conduct testing of students' samples.

Testing laboratories shall not release statistics regarding the rate of positive drug tests to any person or organization without consent of the District.

Substances for Which Tests Are Conducted

The District will make available to students and parents, upon request, a list of the exact substances for which tests will be conducted.

The District shall not test for medical conditions under this policy. A drug test may screen for any illegal drugs that the District, at its discretion, may choose. The term "illegal drug" means all drugs that an individual may not buy, use, sell, or distribute under federal or Texas law, including any prescribed medication for which a student does not have a current prescription. The District shall determine which drugs it will screen for prior to identifying the students who shall be tested

Collection Procedures

A licensed medical facility or third-party administrator selected by the Superintendent shall conduct all testing for the presence of drugs in a student's urine, breath, saliva, and/or hair samples, whichever the District chooses at its sole discretion. Testing shall be performed in accordance with accepted practices and procedures established by the drug-testing laboratory selected by the District. The testing parameters shall be set at industry-accepted standards as defined by the National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA).

Personnel from the drug-testing laboratory shall collect urine samples under conditions that are no more intrusive than the conditions experienced in a public restroom. When selected for testing, a student shall be escorted to the school's testing site by a District employee and shall remain under employee supervision until the student provides a sample. A student shall produce a urine sample within a closed restroom stall. A District employee or a contracted laboratory technician of the same gender as the student shall be present when any samples are collected.

Random Testing

Following the initial drug screening of all students subject to this policy, all students who participate in any extracurricular activity during the school year or who have consented to the District's voluntary drug-testing program shall make up a random testing pool and be subject for random testing throughout the school year.

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Twenty percent of the students participating in the program shall be randomly selected for each random test date. The drug-testing laboratory shall use a random selection method to identify students chosen for random testing. Students shall not receive prior notice of the testing date, testing method, or time.

Refusal to Test or Tampering

A student who refuses to be tested when selected or who is determined to have tampered with a sample shall be deemed to have a positive test result and shall be subject to the appropriate consequences depending on previous positive test results, if any.

If a student to be tested is absent on the day of the random test, the parent shall be notified. The student shall then produce a sample to be collected on the next random testing date.

Confirmation of Positive Results

An initial positive test shall be confirmed by a second test of the same specimen before being reported as positive.

Upon receiving results of a positive drug test, the campus principal shall schedule a meeting with the student and the student's parent as applicable, if the student is under the age of 18, to review the test results and discuss consequences. At that time, the student or his or her parents/guardians may offer an explanation of the positive result. The parents/guardians will have 3 school days following the meeting to provide a medical explanation for a positive result. The parent or student may provide any doctor's prescriptions of any drugs that the student was taking that might have affected the outcome of the test.

Retesting

The parent may, at their own expense, travel to a district-approved certified testing facility and purchase a retest. The retest must be taken in the same format as the original test and be taken within 24 hours of the review of test results conference.

If the student wishes to return to participation in extracurricular activities after any applicable consequences, the student must be retested at the end of the period of suspension and have a negative test result. Following that, the student will be retested on each random test date for one calendar year so long as the student wishes to participate in extracurricular activities.

Drug Abuse Prevention

The District shall notify the parent and student of drug and alcohol abuse prevention resources available in the area.

Consequences

Consequences of positive test results will be cumulative through the student's enrollment in grades 7-8 and begin anew for the student's enrollment in grades 9-12.

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First Offense

Upon a first offense of receiving a confirmed positive drug test, a student shall:

- Be suspended for 15 school days from any extracurricular activity;
- He or she shall be removed from the random testing pool and shall be tested during each random testing cycle for one calendar year; and
- Complete a District-approved substance abuse counseling course. Financial provisions can be made to assist with payment for required counseling for students identified as economically disadvantaged, when circumstances are warranted.

The suspension shall begin 72 hours following notification of the parents of the positive test result. During the period of suspension, the student may participate in practices but not in any competitive activities or performances.

The student will be permitted to compete in activities after the 15-day suspension period if the student has completed the required counseling and has provided satisfactory proof of such counseling to the District administration.

Second Offense

Upon a second offense of receiving a confirmed positive drug test, a student shall:

- 1. Be suspended for 30 school days from any ex-tracurricular activity; and
- 2. He or she shall be removed from the random testing pool and shall be tested during each random testing cycle for one calendar year; and
- Complete a District-approved substance abuse counseling course. Financial provisions can be made to assist with payment for required counseling for students identified as economically disadvantaged, when circumstances are warranted.

The suspension shall begin 72 hours following notification of the parents of the positive test result. During the period of suspension, the student may participate in practices but not in any competitive activities or performances.

The student will be permitted to compete in activities after the 30-day suspension period if the student has completed the required counseling and has provided satisfactory proof of such counseling to the District administration.

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Third Offense

Upon a third offense of receiving a confirmed positive drug test, a student shall:

- 1. Be suspended for one calendar year from any extracurricular activity; and
- Complete a District-approved substance abuse counseling course. Financial provisions can be made to assist with payment for required counseling for students identified as economically disadvantaged, when circumstances are warranted.

The suspension shall begin 72 hours following notification of the parents of the positive test result. During the period of suspension, the student may participate in practices but not in any competitive activities or performances.

The student will be permitted to compete in activities after the oneyear suspension period if the student has completed the required counseling and has provided satisfactory proof of such counseling to the District administration.

The student shall be removed from the random testing pool and shall be tested during each random testing cycle for one calendar year.

Fourth Offense

Upon a fourth offense of receiving a confirmed positive drug test, a student shall be suspended from participation in any extracurricular activity for the remainder of the student's enrollment on the campus.

End-of-Semester Suspensions

If a student's suspension from participation in extracurricular activities is not completed by the end of the semester, the student shall complete the assigned period of suspension during the following semester or during the first semester of the following school year.

Reinstatement after Opting Out

If a student who leaves or quits an extracurricular activity after testing positive wants to be reinstated, he or she must have the permission of the sponsor/coach and principal and must test negative at the next random testing. However, if the student is unwilling to delay reinstatement until the next random testing date, the student may travel, at his or her own expense, to the testing laboratory with which the District contracts. If the student has a negative test result, he or she may be reinstated to the activity and will be required to complete the suspension period and counseling requirements, if any, not completed prior to the student quitting the activity.

Voluntary Student Testing

Students who do not participate in extracurricular activities, but whose parents wish them to be drug tested, may participate in the District's voluntary random drug-testing program. Parents must make a request to the appropriate administrator, and the parents

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and the student must both sign the drug-testing consent form. Students who voluntarily participate shall be placed in the testing pool and shall be tested in the same manner as students who participate in extracurricular activities.

Any refusal by the student and/or parents to sign the consent form shall be treated as forfeiture of participation in the voluntary testing program. Any refusal by a student in the voluntary program to be tested shall be reported to his or her parents or guardians.

Appeals

A student or parent may appeal a decision made under this regulation in accordance with FNG(LOCAL). The student will be ineligible for participation in extracurricular activities while the appeal is pending.