

PANTHER VALLEY
SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: DRUG/ALCOHOL TESTING

ADOPTED:

REVISED:

227.1. DRUG/ALCOHOL TESTING

1. Purpose

The Board recognizes that the use of drugs has a serious and deleterious effect on students' motivation, memory, judgment, coordination, and reaction time, and negatively affects students academically, physically and emotionally. These concerns, in conjunction with the heightened health and safety risks associated with students participating in extracurricular/athletic activities or operating motor vehicles to and from school and school-related activities while impaired, and the recognition that drug use and abuse is particularly dangerous to students who participate in such activities, have compelled development of this policy. The Board wants to provide a legitimate reason for students to refuse to consume or use drugs, and to provide assistance to students who have problems with such substances.

2. Authority
Pol. 122, 123, 223

To address and combat students' continued use of drugs, the Board is implementing both a voluntary drug testing program for all students and a mandatory, random drug testing program for students participating in extracurricular activities, athletics or with parking privileges.

The Board shall also implement reasonable suspicion drug testing in accordance with the guidelines of this policy.

Participation in extracurricular/cocurricular activities, athletics and student use of school parking facilities is a privilege, not a right. Accordingly, students participating in these activities or with parking privileges carry a special responsibility to themselves, fellow students, their parents/guardians, the public and their school to exercise prudent judgment. The Board believes that students who participate in extracurricular activities and athletics become role models for younger children and fellow students, and are viewed as special representatives of the community when they participate in these activities. By assuming these roles, students assume the responsibility of a drug-free lifestyle.

	<p>practice to do so. A secure chain-of-custody, combined with the use of proper analytical methods and techniques, is necessary for a legally defensible reporting of the sample.</p>
<p>Pol. 122</p>	<p>Extracurricular activities - activities that include Board-sponsored activities that are not offered for academic credit toward graduation. A list of extracurricular activities shall be created by the Superintendent or designee and may be supplemented during the year as approved by the Superintendent and reported to the Board.</p>
<p>Pol. 210, 227</p>	<p>Drug - shall include any controlled substance which is prohibited by federal/Pennsylvania law, all look-alike drugs, anabolic steroids, all alcoholic beverages, and any prescription or patent drug, except those for which permission to use in school has been granted pursuant to Board policy.</p>
	<p>Medical Review Officer (MRO) - a licensed physician trained and certified in the process and interpretation of drug testing results.</p>
	<p>Random selection - a selection process whose alternative outcomes occur with an equal probability. All eligible students will have an equal probability of being selected.</p>
<p>Pol. 236</p>	<p>Student Assistance Program (SAP) - program administered by the PA Department of Education's Division of Student and Safe School Services designed to assist students in overcoming issues including alcohol, tobacco, other drugs, and mental health issues in order that they may achieve, remain in school, and advance.</p>
	<p>Violation of this policy or violates this policy - the findings of a confirmed positive drug test, refusal to take a mandatory random drug test, or an attempt to alter the integrity of a urine sample.</p>
<p>4. Guidelines</p>	<p><u>Types Of Testing</u></p> <p><i>Random Mandatory Testing Requirements -</i></p> <p>No student enrolled in grades 6 through 12 shall be permitted to participate in extracurricular/cocurricular activities, athletics or obtain a parking permit unless the student and the student's parent/guardian sign a Consent to Random Mandatory Testing and Authorization for Release of Information Form, authorizing the random drug testing of his/her student. Once the consent has been submitted, it shall remain in effect until the Superintendent or designee receives a signed withdrawal request from a parent/guardian to remove his/her student from the drug testing program. If at any time during the school year a student who is not involved in the random</p>

mandatory drug testing program chooses to join a(n) extracurricular/cocurricular activity or athletics, that student will automatically be placed in the next testing pool once consent is received by the Superintendent or designee.

Voluntary Testing Requirements –

Any parent/guardian of a student enrolled in grades 6 through 12 who does not participate in extracurricular/cocurricular activities, athletics or does not obtain a student parking permit may voluntarily include his/her student in the drug testing program. The parent/guardian must sign a Consent to Voluntary Testing and Authorization for Release of Information Form, authorizing the drug testing of his/her student. After the Superintendent or designee has received the consent, the student's name will be included in the list of students eligible for random selection. Once the consent has been submitted, it shall remain in effect until the Superintendent or designee receives a signed withdrawal request form from a parent/guardian to remove the student from the drug testing program.

Reasonable Suspicion Testing –

If based on the student's behavior, medical symptoms, vital signs or other observable factors, the building principal has reasonable suspicion that the student is under the influence of a controlled substance, the student may be required to submit to drug or alcohol testing.

Testing Process

All drug testing of urine samples shall be conducted without additional student or parent/guardian notification, during the school year, on the students participating in the drug testing programs. Students selected for testing shall be chosen by a random sampling process by an approved contractor. Any eligible student selected randomly for urine drug testing who is not in school on the day of testing will be tested at the next available testing date. The school district may test up to one hundred percent (100%) of the eligible students randomly, at two (2) week intervals during the school year or interscholastic season without regard as to whether the student is then participating in an extracurricular activity and/or athletics.

The drug test will be administered to determine the presence of some or all of the following: anabolic steroids, amphetamines, barbiturates, cocaine, codeine, depressants, heroin, marijuana, morphine, methamphetamines, opiates, PCP, stimulants, valium, alcohol, or other drugs added at the discretion of the Superintendent, in the student's urine sample. A test result indicating the presence of any of these substances will be considered a violation of this policy.

If a student refuses to submit a urine sample for testing, the refusal will be deemed a violation of this policy. If a student attempts to alter or alters the integrity of a urine sample during the collection process, such conduct will be deemed a violation of this policy.

If a student fails to supply an adequate sample when requested, the student must remain in the testing area and will be allowed to drink up to eight (8) ounces of liquid every one-half hour (30 minutes) for up to two (2) and one-half (30 minutes) hours. Failure to supply an adequate sample within the allotted time will result in a refusal to submit a sample and will be deemed a violation of this policy.

If a parent/guardian desires to be present during the student's testing, s/he must so indicate on the consent form, and provide a phone number for contact purposes. The student's test will then be delayed for one (1) hour from the time of contact, pending arrival. Failure to arrive within the allotted time will result in a refusal to submit a sample, and will be deemed a violation of this policy.

Testing Procedures

Eligible students will arrive with an acceptable identification (ID) with a photo license or etc. If they cannot provide a photo ID, the building principal or designee will identify the student.

The chain-of-custody form will be filled out prior to testing and a list of all medication or over-the-counter drugs the student has consumed in the past thirty (30) days will be noted. The student will be asked whether or not s/he has eaten any poppy seeds in the past seven (7) days. The second copy of the chain-of-custody form, which includes the name, will be kept by the school designee. The student is never out of the supervision of the collector with the chain-of-custody form.

The student will sign the completed form.

The student will be asked to wash his/her hands with soap and water and dry them. The student will be required to pull up pants legs and empty his/her pockets prior to testing.

No purses, bags, or containers may be taken into the collection area with the student.

The collector prepares the specimen cup. The collector adds a bluing agent to the water in the urinal or toilet. When the specimen is collected, the attendant will check to make certain that the specimen has the temperature and appearance of a freshly collected urine specimen.

The student will then initial the seal in the presence of the collector and the witness will also indicate the date and time on the specimen and initial the specimen.

Testing will be performed on urine samples collected by trained and certified collection personnel following forensic collection procedures. Urine samples will be submitted to a screening test for multiple drugs as set forth in this policy. Urine samples found to test positive on the screening assay will be subject to further confirmatory testing for the drug(s) identified, using a different analytical methodology. Only those drugs found to be positive on the screening assay and confirmatory tests will be reported as positive to the Medical Review Officer (MRO). All test results will be sent to the MRO. For all positive test results, the MRO will contact the student and/or the student's parent/guardian by telephone to determine if there is a legitimate medical explanation for the result. The MRO will report to the designated school representative only a laboratory-confirmed positive test for which the student and/or the student's parent/guardian is unable to provide an acceptable medical explanation. Students shall comply with reasonable requests of the approved contractor. Failure to comply with a reasonable request of the approved contractor or any attempt to alter the integrity of the urine sample will be a violation of this policy. The testing procedures shall be scheduled at the discretion of the Superintendent.

Confirmation/Notification Of Positive Tests

If it is determined that a violation of this policy has occurred, the student and the student's parent/guardian will be notified by the designee. If requested, a donor challenge test will be at the expense of the student and/or the student's parent/guardian and will be administered using the original urine sample at the same laboratory. If the donor challenge test result is negative, no further action will be taken and the student and/or the student's parent/guardian will be reimbursed by the school district for the cost of the donor challenge test. If a donor challenge test is requested, the consequences for a violation shall not apply until the results of the donor challenge test are available.

Consequences For Violations Of This Policy

When a student who participates in extracurricular/co-curricular activities, athletics or has a parking permit violates this policy, s/he shall be subjected to the following actions:

1. **First Violation** - The student enrolled in grades 6 through 12 will be automatically referred to the Student Assistance Program (SAP) and will be suspended from participating in extracurricular/co-curricular activities, athletics and/or parking privileges for a minimum of forty-five (45) student days from the date of receipt of confirmation of the positive test or until the school has received notification of positive completion of the recommendations of the SAP team.

The student's belongings, locker, and car may be immediately searched upon notification of a positive test. During the suspension period, the student may also be subject to random searches at the discretion of the administration.

To be eligible for continued participation in extracurricular/co-curricular activities, athletics and/or parking privileges after the period of suspension, the offending student must consent to further drug testing at any time up to a one (1) year period following the date of the receipt of confirmation of the positive test at the expense of the parent/guardian using the district's approved contractor. The school district shall also notify the student and the student's parent/guardian of the results of the drug testing.

2. **Second Violation** - The student enrolled in grades 6 through 12 will be automatically referred to the Student Assistance Program (SAP) and will be suspended from participating in extracurricular/co-curricular activities, athletics and/or parking privileges for one (1) full calendar year from the date of receipt of the confirmation of a positive test and the school has received notification of positive completions of the recommendations of the SAP team.

The student's belongings, locker, and car may be immediately searched upon notification of a positive test. During the suspension period, the student may also be subject to random searches at the discretion of the administration.

To be eligible for continued participation in extracurricular/co-curricular activities, athletics and/or parking privileges after the period of suspension, the offending student must consent to continued drug testing one (1) time every two (2) weeks for the one (1) year period following the date of receipt of confirmation of the positive test at the expense of the parent/guardian using the district's approved contractor. The school district shall notify the student and/or student's parent/guardian of the results of the drug screening.

Pol. 226

Pol. 226

Pol. 226

3. **Third Violation** - The student enrolled in grades 6 through 12 will be automatically referred to the Student Assistance Program (SAP) and will be suspended from participating in extracurricular/co-curricular activities, athletics and/or parking privileges for two (2) full calendar years from the date of receipt of the confirmation of a positive test and the school has received notification of positive completion of the recommendations of the SAP team.

The student's belongings, locker, and car may be immediately searched upon notification of a positive test. During the suspension period, the student may also be subject to random searches at the discretion of the administration.

To be eligible for continued participation in extracurricular/co-curricular activities, athletics and/or parking privileges after the period of suspension, the offending student must consent to continued drug testing one (1) time every two (2) weeks for the two (2) year period following the date of receipt of confirmation of the positive test at the expense of the parent/guardian using the district's approved contractor. The school district shall notify the student and/or student's parent/guardian of the results of the drug screening. The student must also complete a negative drug test prior to reinstatement after the two (2) year period to be eligible to participate. In the event of a confirmation of a positive test at the end of the two (2) year period, the student shall be denied participation for the remainder of their school career.

During the suspension, the offending student may not participate in any game, competition, practice, or in any way associate with the team/organization. The student must also hand in any uniforms and/or equipment belonging to the district for the term of the suspension. The coach/advisor will be responsible for reporting uniform/equipment returned to the Athletic Director.

When a student who has voluntarily opted to participate in the drug testing program violates the policy, s/he shall be required to participate in the Student Assistance Program. If a student is referred to the Student Assistance Program for a violation of this policy, the school district encourages the student's parent/guardian to fully participate in the assessment process.

No student shall be suspended from school, expelled or otherwise penalized academically as a result of a confirmed positive result under this policy. Information regarding the results of drug tests shall not be disclosed to law enforcement authorities unless the school district is otherwise compelled to do so by valid subpoena or court order. If such disclosure is requested, the school district will notify the student and the student's parent/guardian as soon as possible. The results of the drug tests under this policy will not be documented in a student's academic records. Positive drug test results will be maintained by the school district solely to

POL 227

administer this policy. Any student's positive drug test results will be destroyed upon the student's graduation, completion of year of eligibility, and/or the age of twenty-one (21) by the Panther Valley School District.

Anabolic Steroids -

Student athletes found in violation of the prohibited use of anabolic steroids shall be subjected to the penalties set forth in applicable Board policy.

References:

Board Policy - 122, 123, 210, 223, 226, 227, 236