

Student Chemical Abuse

The Dexter R-XI School District recognizes that student drug abuse is a significant health and safety problem for schools. Among the problems, substance abuse negatively affects students' health, behavior, learning, reflexes and the overall development of students, including those participating in extracurricular activities. Chemical abuse includes, but is not limited to, the use of illegal substances, substances represented to be controlled, and misuse of legal drugs and medications.

The purpose of the Dexter R-XI Chemical Abuse Policy include:

1. To establish standards of conduct for district students.
2. To identify students who are misusing drugs so that intervention plans can be implemented by home and school.
3. To establish a safe environment for student athletes during competition and generally for all students.
4. To provide a vehicle for parents to become aware of chemical abuse problems involving their children so that corrective action may be taken.
5. To provide referrals for students who need evaluation and counseling.
6. To deter chemical abuse or misuse by all students.
7. To send a clear message that the District is committed to eliminating student chemical abuse and to helping students experiencing chemical abuse problems.
8. To work cooperatively with the parents by assisting them in keeping their children free from chemical abuse.

It is not the purpose or intent of the District's Chemical Abuse Policy to identify students for punishment under the District's discipline code of conduct.

This program does not affect other policies and practices of the District, which deal with drug possession or use where reasonable suspicion is obtained by means other than random sampling provided in this policy.

A. Random Drug Testing

Participating in MSHSAA related extracurricular activities is a privilege that carries the responsibility to adhere to high standards of conduct, including refraining from the use of illegal drugs, anabolic steroids and alcohol. To assist students in making healthy and safe choices, the district will conduct random drug testing of students in grades 7-12 as a condition of participation in those MSHSAA related sports or activities.

Prior to a student's participation in a MSHSAA related sport or activity, the school will require the attendance of all potential participants and a custodial parent or guardian at one drug awareness session. At the session, each student and parent/guardian will receive information about the problems of drug use and will be advised of the requirements that all participants will be subject to random drug tests. Each student will also receive information regarding the method of testing to be used in the program. During each session, parents and students will have the opportunity to ask any questions they may have regarding the program.

At the conclusion of each session, students who wish to participate in any MSHSAA related sport and or activity (Band, Choir, Speech/Debate, Scholar Bowl) and their parents will be required to sign a form indicating their attendance at the mandatory education session and agreeing to participate in the random drug testing program. This consent form will be kept on file in the drug testing coordinator's office. **Students who fail to return a fully completed consent form will not be eligible to participate in MSHSAA related extracurricular activities.**

Selection Process

Once a student is listed as an eligible participant for a MSHSAA related extracurricular activity, that student will be subject to random drug testing for a year until the start of the following season/school year. If a student continues to participate the following season/school year, they will remain subject to random drug testing according to this Policy. Other than when the initial consent form is completed, the consent form must be updated when students enter 9th grade.

The District's drug testing coordinator will review the list of participants and update the list before each random selection is done. Each participant will have an assigned number that is a unique identifier for that student. The drug testing coordinator will keep the cross-reference log showing each name and number confidential. Utilizing the drug testing company's selection process, the district will inform them of how many tests are to be drawn from the list of numbers on the cross referenced list. The random selection process will result in an equal probability that any participating student could be chosen, both during season or out of season.

Testing

The superintendent, assistant superintendent and/or activities director will determine the dates for testing. Once the test pool has been selected randomly by the selection process, students will be escorted by the drug testing coordinator, along with the drug testing company to a restroom or a locker room where a urine sample will be obtained. Samples may be tested for THC/marijuana, benzodiazepines, cocaine/benzoylecgonine, amphetamines, barbiturates, phencyclidine, methamphetamine, opiates/morphine, alcohol, and anabolic steroids. Samples will not be screened for the existence of any physical conditions other than prohibited drug or alcohol use.

Medical Treatment

In the event a student has a positive test and is being treated by a physician, the student's parent/guardian may provide proof of such treatment. There will be no consequences to the student for the positive test, provided the student's positive test is solely for a controlled substance prescribed by his or her physician.

Confidentiality

Appropriate steps will be taken to respect the privacy of students while, at the same time, preventing falsification of testing. The test results will remain confidential and will only be released to the student, his or her parent(s)/guardian(s) and approved school officials. In addition, the test results will not become part of the student's permanent record/transcript. 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 covered extracurricular activities.

Consequences

Upon the occurrences of the first positive test, the Building Principal and Activities Director will schedule a conference with the student's parent/guardian to explain the results. Counseling, at the student's expense, will be strongly recommended for every student who tests positive. The consequences are as follows:

Refusal by a student to be tested when randomly selected will be considered by the district to be a positive test result and will subject the student to consequences as outlined within this policy.

First Offense- Exclusion from all covered sports or activities for a minimum of 28 school days and must pass a drug test at the expense of the student/parent, prior to participating in covered activities again.

Second Offense- Exclusion from all covered sports or activities for a minimum of 365 calendar days and must pass a drug test at the expense of the student/parent, prior to participating in covered activities again.

Third Offense- Excluded from all covered sports and activities for the rest of the student's enrollment in the school district.

For the purpose of this policy, a "school day" is a scheduled calendar day when students are scheduled for school attendance. A positive test through this random testing program will not result in suspension from school or academic sanctions. This district will not report results to law enforcement.

DEXTER R-XI SCHOOL DISTRICT

STUDENT CHEMICAL ABUSE POLICY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT/CONSENT FORM

Student (print)

Graduation Year

Parent/Guardian Print

By means of my signature, I hereby acknowledge that as a result of my attendance at a school-sponsored drug awareness session, I have information regarding drug use among school-aged youth. I hereby acknowledge that I have been made aware of the Student Chemical Abuse Policy as it is currently being implemented by the Dexter R-XI School District. I also hereby consent to participate in the Dexter R-XI student drug testing program as defined by the District's Student Chemical Abuse Policy. I also acknowledge that I have had an opportunity to ask questions of school officials and/or the outside drug-testing agency with regard to the district's student drug testing program. I also acknowledge that by signing this document- that it will remain in effect throughout my child's participation in MSHSAA related extracurricular activities at the Dexter R-XI School District.

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature