

DRUG TESTING POLICY

Struthers City Schools

The Struthers City Schools Board of Education Drug Testing Policy was formed because of a concern that alcohol and illicit drugs may be used by Struthers City Schools students. The Struthers City Schools Board of Education desires to implement a policy which will attempt to provide this district with a safe and healthful student program. This policy reflects the Struthers City Schools Board of Education and the community's strong commitment to establish a truly drug and alcohol free school program. Because of the pervasive nature of drug use in our local schools, Struthers City Schools have selected student athletes, students who participate in competitive extra-curricular activities and students who, along with consent from their parents, volunteer to be tested, for inclusion in the testing pool. This policy applies to all athletes, volunteers and extracurricular activities from grades 7-12.

PURPOSE OF THIS POLICY SHALL BE:

1. To provide a healthy and safe environment to all students participating in the athletic and extracurricular program.
2. To discourage all students from using drugs and alcohol.
 - a. Students will assume all responsibility for regulating their personal lives in ways that will result in their becoming healthful members of a team and worthy representatives of the school and community.
3. To provide students with the opportunity to become leaders in the student body for a drug free school.
4. To provide solutions for the student who does use drugs and alcohol.
5. To provide the school with positive guidelines and disciplinary policies for violations of the drug free policy.
6. To encourage those students who participate in athletic and extracurricular programs to remain drug free and alcohol free.

The program does not affect the current policies, practices, or rights of the District regarding student drug and/or alcohol possession or use, where reasonable suspicion by means other than drug testing through this policy. The drug testing policy is non punitive.

Students involved in extra-curricular activities need to be exemplary in the eyes of the community and other students. The drug testing and education policy is designed to create a safe, drug free environment for students and assist them in getting help when needed. Although students risk the loss of continued participation in extra-curricular activities, no student shall be suspended or expelled from school as a result of a certified "positive" test conducted by his/her school under this program.

No student will be penalized academically for testing positive for banned substances. The results of drug tests will not be documented in any student's academic records.

DEFINITIONS

1. **STUDENT ATHLETE**
Any person participating in the Struthers City Schools High School athletic program and/or contests under the control and jurisdiction of the Struthers City Schools and/or the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA). This policy also includes cheerleaders and members of the Wrestling Club.
2. **EXTRACURRICULAR**
Any activity of a competitive nature that does not involve a grade.
3. **ATHLETIC SEASON**
In-season start dates will begin as published by the Ohio High School Athletic Association or sanctioning organization and continue until the completion of awards program for that sport for the Struthers City Schools. There are three athletic seasons: Fall, Winter, Spring.
4. **RANDOM SELECTION**
A system of selecting athletes for drug and alcohol testing in which each athlete shall have a fair and equitable chance of being selected each time selections are required.
5. **ILLEGAL/ILLCIT DRUGS**
Any substance included in U.S.C. 802 (6), which an individual may not sell, offer to sell, possess, give, exchange, use, distribute, or purchase under State or Federal Law. This definition also includes all prescribed and over-the-counter drugs being used in any way other than for medical purposes in accordance with the directions for use provided for in the prescription or by the manufacturer. We may also test for Nicotine and Steroids.
6. **ALCOHOL**
Any intoxicating liquor, beer, wine, mixed beverage, or malt liquor beverage as defined in the Ohio Revised Code Section 4301.01. The term "alcoholic beverage" includes any liquid or substance, such as "near beer" which contains alcohol in any proportion or percentage. The term "alcoholic beverage" does not include a substance used for medical purposes in accordance with directions for use provided in a prescription or by the manufacturer and in accordance with school district policy and rules related to the use of prescription and non-prescription drugs, provided the substance is a) authorized by a medical prescription from a licensed physician and kept in the original container, which shall state the student's name and directions for use or b) an over-the-counter medicine.

TYPES OF TESTING

1. TEAM TESTING

At the beginning of each season, all eligible students will submit to urine drug and alcohol testing. This testing will be completed within the first two weeks of the season on a specified date and time. The collection process will take place on school property or at a Board of

must be taken. If the student leaves the collection area or has contact with anyone, the sample will be invalid and the student will have to give another sample.

This collection procedure is subject to change because of procedural requirements by the testing agency. The School Board reserves the right to change the collection procedure to coincide with the testing guidelines set forth by the testing agency.

When using rapid screens, all non-negative screens will be sent out with a chain of custody to a certified laboratory for confirmation. A Certified Medical Review Officer will verify the positive test.

Any student that tests positive will have to be tested weekly for the term of a 5 week program with drug counseling at the expense of the student and or parent. Testing will be done by Great Lakes Biomedical only so long as this is the company the school selects.

5. RESULTS OF A POSITIVE TEST

Any positive urine drug test results will be made known to the building administrator, who in turn, will notify the parents/guardians/custodians and student.

6. IF A POSITIVE TEST OCCURS:

Please refer to the disciplinary actions on pg. 5 of the Student & Parent Athletic Handbook.

Violations are accumulative throughout the student's secondary school career. (Grades 9-12)

7. SELF REFERRALS

An athlete may give a once a year self referral, which may be done only twice in 4 years. Self referrals can only happen before a test is done. Counseling and additional testing are required. **Please refer to information provided on pg. 7 of the Student & Parent Athletic Handbook.**

INFORMED CONSENT AGREEMENT

We hereby consent to allow the student named on the reverse side to undergo urinalysis testing for the presence of illicit drugs, alcohol, or banned substances in accordance with Policy and Procedures for Drug Testing of the Struthers City Schools District.

We understand that testing will be administered in accordance with the guidelines of the Struthers City Schools District Drug Testing Policy for student athletes.

We understand that any urine sample taken for drug testing will be tested only by a Board approved company.

We hereby give our consent to the company selected by the Struthers City Schools School Board of Education, its employees, or agents, together with any company, hospital, or laboratory designated to perform urinalysis testing for the detection of drugs.

We further give our consent to the company selected by the Struthers City Schools Board of Education, its employees, or agents, to release all results of these tests to designated School District employees or agents. We understand that these results will also be available to us upon request.

I, the student, hereby authorize the release of the results of such testing to my parent/guardian/custodian.

We hereby release the Struthers City Schools Board or Education, its employees or agents from any legal responsibility or liability for the release of such information and records.

This will be deemed consent pursuant to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, 20 U.S.C. 1232g as amended, and the Ohio Revised Code 3319.321, for the release of the test results as authorized by the Informed Consent Agreement or as required by law.