

ALEXANDRIA COMMUNITY SCHOOLS DRUG EDUCATION AND TESTING PROGRAM

The Board of School Trustees of Alexandria Community Schools recognizes the health risks and dangers associated with the unlawful use of drugs and alcohol. Drug and alcohol use in the workplace is a threat to the safety and health of both our employees and our students. It jeopardizes the efficiency of our operations and the quality of our educational programs. The risks associated with such use may include the possibility of impaired judgment, diminished capacity, deterioration of the organs of the body, addiction, the modification of behavior, death or other conditions which substantially inhibit a person from performing to their fullest natural ability.

Alcohol and drug abuse is a serious problem in today's society, and schools are not immune to such problems. It is statistically predictable and it is within our experience, that some students have used alcohol and/or have experimented with "street drugs" such as marijuana, methamphetamine and cocaine, or may do so during their high school careers.

The Board of School Trustees recognizes that many of our students drive to school and utilize school property to park on. The Board also recognizes that many of our students also participate in school recognized extra-curricular clubs and organizations, as well as the athletic programs of the school. The Board realizes that these opportunities are privileges offered to our students and such participation is not an absolute right. One such condition shall be an agreement by the student to submit to testing for the use of drugs and alcohol if selected in accordance with the procedures listed in this policy.

The random drug-testing program adds an additional dimension to a student's ability to utilize student parking and/or participate in co/extra-curricular student activities already established by the school that guides student conduct. The education and testing program is intended to be a helpful part of the overall physical and mental education and conditioning programs of Alexandria Community Schools. Drug use is inconsistent with driver safety, participation in co/extra curricular clubs, athletic programs, and with the purpose of the school in general. The program, therefore, includes appropriate procedures for dealing with such problems in areas which the schools have been given legal parameters to implement such policies.

PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

This drug-testing program shall apply to all Alexandria-Monroe High School students in grade 9-12 who:

- a. Utilize a student parking permit necessary to park on school property.
- b. Try out and/or become members of a school co/extra-curricular club, group or organization that has a board approved sponsor, supervisor and/or coach.
- c. Try out or become members of a high school interscholastic athletic team.

The operation of a vehicle while under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol accounts for thousands of deaths on our roads and highways each year. The safe operation of a motor vehicle is paramount to health and safety of our students, staff and community members. Students who choose to drive to school have the convenience and privilege of parking their vehicle on school property after securing a parking permit. In order to park on school property, a student must apply for and display a parking permit.

A student driver who applies for a parking permit agrees to participate in the testing program.

Students who participate in co/extra-curricular and athletic programs are respected and admired by a large segment of the student body of each school. In order to participate in our school's

co/extracurricular and/or athletic programs, students are expected to hold themselves as good examples of citizenship, which includes avoiding drug and alcohol usage. It has been widely recognized that drug and alcohol usage can cause serious physical, mental, and emotional harm. A student who uses drugs can be a danger to him or herself and others. The use of such substances is not only a danger to the individual user, but can significantly impair the positive benefits to be received by all participants in these programs.

The use of alcohol and drugs is incompatible with the goals of and participation in all student programs and activities at Alexandria Community Schools. Such usage has long been forbidden by school rules and policies.

In addition to random selection, the school will also test any student if there is a request from the parent or guardian. Any parent or guardian requesting a test be done will be required to sign a consent form if the student is not an athlete, student participant of co/extra-curricular activities and/or student driver. If the parent or guardian requests that the test be administered during a regularly scheduled testing date, the test will be free of charge. If the parent/ guardian requests that the test be conducted as soon as possible, the parent/guardian will be responsible for all costs incurred. A positive test will result in the penalty listed in the student handbook for possession.

This program will not affect the policies, practices, or rights of the School Corporation in dealing with drug or alcohol possession or use where reasonable cause to believe drug or alcohol abuse is presently occurring.

1. Each student and parent/guardian will receive a copy of this program. Upon request, this program shall be explained and an educational presentation shall be made in order to acquaint these students with the harmful consequences of substance abuse. This information may be in the form of a written or visual presentation.
2. Each prospective participant shall receive a consent form, a copy of which is attached hereto, which shall be dated and signed by the student and by a custodial parent or guardian before the issuance of a parking permit and/or a student participant is allowed to practice or participate in any activity of the team, club and/or organization. (Except for August and September when consent forms may be received by the school after the beginning of practices or organizational meetings.) The consent shall be to provide, at any time requested, a urine sample to be tested for drugs and alcohol. Any student and/or parent/guardian refusing to sign a consent form will cause the student to be ineligible to park on school property and/or participate until the form is signed. The consent form shall be in effect throughout all the years of participation unless revoked in writing by the student driver, athlete, parent and/or guardian.
3. Selections may occur at any time during the calendar year. One cross-referenced list of names and numbers will be maintained. The list shall be maintained by the building principal and shall be secured in the school safe until the designated day of testing. The school nurse shall use this list to assist in the verification of identification during the collection of samples. The numbers shall be selected by the testing company in random fashion without the knowledge of individual names. The school will match the pre-assigned numbers with the names of those to be testing.
4. The day of testing the nurse/designee will issue passes to the students whose numbers were drawn. The students will report directly to the office. If the student is absent and the absence is unexcused, the student will be ineligible for

parking and/or participation until the next testing date and will be automatically tested on that date. If the absence is excused, the student may continue to park and/or participate but will be automatically tested on the next date. If the participant has a second unexcused absence on the second test date, he/she will then be declared ineligible for parking/participation until the next date at which time the student will be tested.

5. The collection of the samples will be done in a non-offensive manner which insures the integrity of the sample. The school official or designee who supervises the sample collection will not physically observe the giving of the sample which will take place in a secured and private enclosure. Recordation of appropriate information to insure a proper chain of custody record will begin at the time the sample is collected, including verification signatures by both the student and the supervising official. The samples will then be turned over to the testing laboratory, and each sample will be tested for alcohol, unlawful drugs as listed in the athletic profile of the laboratory. The laboratory may also test for performance enhancing drugs known as steroids. Testing shall be done by a competent and accredited laboratory selected by the Alexandria Community Schools.
6. The laboratory shall report the results of the test only to the Principal who is responsible for contacting the student and his/her parents or guardian regarding the test results. If the test is positive, the principal will confer with the testing lab to determine if there is any medical explanation for the substance to be in the student. If the participant is taking any over-the-counter or prescription medication which may contribute to a positive test result, it would be in the student's best interest for that student and the student's parent/guardian to inform the school nurse of this fact at the time of the taking of the urine sample. If the principal verifies that there is no medical reason for the positive result, he/she will contact the student and the student's parent/guardian.
7. All test results shall be kept by the principal. The parents/guardians of a student who tests negative will be notified by mail within five (5) days of the receipt of the information. Positive test results without medical explanation shall be made known only to the principal. The principal will contact the student, and the student's parent/guardian. Positive test notification will be made within twenty-four hours of receipt of results. The principal shall maintain a record of occurrences for the duration of the student's school career. The principal may release information to the athletic director, coach or sponsor if necessary. All information will be treated with the utmost discretion and confidence. Any breach of information will be investigated by the Superintendent and School Board. These records shall be destroyed at the beginning of the school year immediately following a student's graduation. However, it is required that the receiving school be notified if a student has been declared ineligible for athletic participation in accordance with IHSAA
8. If any participant's sample tested positive at the laboratory the student and the student's parents/guardians shall be advised of the test results and told which type of substance was found. If the student or the student's parents/guardians desire, they may request to have the remaining portion of the sample, if any, re-analyzed by any accredited testing facility of their choice. Such request must be received by the principal within twenty-four hours of the first notification. The student and student's parents/guardians shall bear the responsibility and the cost of the testing done at their request. The school shall only be responsible for initial testing, analysis, and/or any other test required by the school through this program.

9. The testing results of any student shall not be made known to any school official other than as above stated, and no student shall be expelled, suspended, or disciplined as the result of any positive test obtained through a testing program other than as stated herein.

CONSEQUENCES

1. FIRST OFFENSE:

- A. **STUDENT DRIVERS:** The student shall be suspended from parking on school grounds for ninety (90) days.
- B. **STUDENT ATHLETES:** The student will be suspended for fifty (50%) percent of the athletic team season's calendar of events. If any offense occurs during the off-season in athletics or if the student is not currently participating in any activity, the penalty would begin at the beginning of his/her next regular season or activity.
- C. **CO/EXTRACURRICULAR PARTICIPANTS:** The student will be suspended from that club's activities for ninety (90) school days of activities in which he/she is currently participating in at the time of the offense.

The building principal, or his/her designee, may reduce the suspension to twenty (20%) percent of the athletic season or forty (40) school days of the extra curricular organization(s) and/or student parking only if:

- a. The student and parent or guardian agree to a drug and alcohol assessment provided a state approved alcohol/drug agency in the community and conducted by a Certified Alcoholism/Drug Abuse Counselor, and follow his/her recommendations.
- b. The parent/ guardian is responsible for all cost associated with the assessment and treatment.

All athletic suspensions will occur for consecutive events played.

2. SECOND OFFENSE:

- A. **STUDENT DRIVERS:** The student shall be suspended from parking on school grounds for one-hundred twenty (120) days.
- B. **STUDENT ATHLETES:** The student will be suspended for seventy-five (75%) percent of the athletic team season's calendar of events. If any offense occurs during the off-season in athletics or if the student is not currently participating in any activity, the penalty would begin at the beginning of his/her next regular season or activity. All athletic suspensions will occur for consecutive events played
- C. **CO/EXTRACURRICULAR PARTICIPANTS:** The student will be suspended from that club's activities for one-hundred twenty (120) school days of activities in which he/she is currently participating in at the time of the offense.

The building principal, or his/her designee, may reduce the suspension to forty (40%) of the athletic season or eighty (80) school days of the extra curricular organization(s) and/or parking privileges if:

- a. The student and parent or guardian agree to a drug and alcohol assessment provided by a state approved alcohol/drug agency that is conducted by a Certified Alcoholism/Drug Abuse Counselor and successfully comply with the terms of the approved program.

3. **THIRD OFFENSE:**
The student will be suspended from participation in all parking privileges, extra curricular activities, including athletics for the remainder of his/her enrollment in the Alexandria Community School Corporation.

4. **REFUSAL:** Should a student or parent/guardian of a student enrolled in the testing program refuse to provide or have their student provide a sample when randomly selected to do so, the student will be treated as a positive result and subject to the offense chart listed above.

If a student qualifies for participation in the program in more than one area (i.e. a student driver that is also a participant in a co/extracurricular activity) the student will be suspended in all applicable areas.

ALEXANDRIA COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION
EXTRACURRICULAR CONSENT FORM

I have received and have read and understand a copy of the "Alexandria Community School Corporation Drug Testing Program." I desire that _____ participate in this program. I desire to participate in this program for the following reason:

- a. Student Athletic
- b. Student Extra-curricular
- c. Student Driver

I voluntarily agree to be subject to its terms for the entire high school career (grades 9-12). I agree to cooperate in furnishing urine specimens that may be required from time to time.

I further agree and consent to the disclosure of the sampling, testing, and results provided for this program. This consent is given pursuant to all State and Federal Privacy Statutes, and is a waiver of rights to nondisclosure of such test records and results only to the extent of the disclosures in the program.

Date: _____

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature