
DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING FOR STUDENT ATHLETES POLICY

Information for Parents ALTOONA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

DATE _____

Parents and Student Athletes of the _____:

The Altoona Area School District initiated a random drug and alcohol testing policy for _____ athletes beginning with the _____ season of the _____ school year.

Student athletes who are randomly selected will provide a sample that will test for marijuana, PCP, amphetamines, cocaine, opiates, barbiturates, and alcohol. The screening will be co-supervised by the Altoona Hospital Campus (ARHS) personnel and Altoona Area School District personnel. We will observe all the legal rules for chain of custody at both the collection and analysis. (Chain of custody refers to the security of handling the obtained sample from the point of collection to the final destination of the laboratory including identification, labeling, sealing, and testing.)

The Principal will receive a confidential report of the test results. The Principal will promptly notify the parents of the student athletes upon receipt of the test results. If the sample tests positive, a second verification test is administered within forty-eight (48) hours to confirm the results. The second test is completed utilizing the original sample. If the second test is negative, no further action is taken. The Principal will provide written notice to the parents of those students who successfully test negative.

The test is to be used as a deterrent rather than as a disciplinary tool. However, those who test positive will be notified by the Principal and will be:

1. Required to meet with the Principal and with his/her parents/guardians.
2. Required to participate in the District's Student Assistance Program and complete a drug and alcohol evaluation.
3. Required to comply with the drug and alcohol evaluator's recommendations as failure to comply will result in dismissal from the activity.
4. Required student disqualification from further participation in the activity as outlined in this policy (as per Board Policy 5040R2 Drug and Alcohol Testing for Student Athletes).
5. Required to be retested before the start of another sports season in which they will be a team participant and test negative prior to his/her return to athletic competition.

Students will be randomly selected by computer operation by an individual not associated with the athletic program. Should any student refuse to submit a sample for testing, he/she will be disqualified from participation in the activity and treated as a first offense.

We will select a percentage of athletes from all teams participating during that testing season. The test will not be announced prior to the actual date of screening. Testing results will be held in strict confidence. We will continue to follow our School District Board Policy No. 5010R15 on Drugs and Alcohol concerning the use, possession, or distribution of illegal substances on school premises and possessing, using, or distributing on non-school time.

We thank you for your support and assistance in keeping drugs and alcohol out of athletes.

Respectfully,

Building Principal

Vincent Nedimyer, Athletic Director
Altoona Area School District