

DRUG TESTING POLICY

Southern Local Schools

The Southern Local Board of Education Drug Testing Policy was formed because of the Board's legitimate governmental interest in deterring drug and alcohol use among the students in the District and in protecting the health and safety of students. The Board of Education desires to implement a policy which will attempt to provide this district with a safe and healthful student program at a time when alcohol and illicit drug use in local schools is deemed to be pervasive. This policy reflects the Board of Education and the community's strong commitment to establish a truly drug and alcohol free school program.

Those participating in the program shall be student athletes, students who participate in extra-curricular activities and students who with the consent of their parents are selected as volunteers to be part of the program.

PURPOSE OF THIS POLICY SHALL BE:

1. To provide a healthy and safe environment to all students participating in the athletic and extra-curricular programs.
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 extra-curricular 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 exists 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 Southern Local High School Athletic Program and/or contests under the control and jurisdiction of the Southern Local School District and/or the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA). This policy also involves cheerleaders and band.
2. EXTRA-CURRICULAR
Any club, group or activity that is sponsored by the school district which holds events, meetings or activities that extend beyond the normal school day.
3. VOLUNTEERS
Those students who with consent of their parents are selected as volunteers to be a part of the program and includes any student who obtains a parking permit.
4. 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 District. There are three athletic seasons: Fall, Winter, Spring. There is no season for extra-curricular participants and volunteers.
5. RANDOM SELECTION
A system of selecting athletes, extra-curricular participants, and volunteers including parking permit holders for drug and alcohol testing in which each student shall have a fair and equitable chance of being selected each time selections are required.
6. ILLEGAL/ILLICIT DRUGS
Any substance included in U.S.C. 802 (6), which an individual may not sell, offer to sell, possess, present, 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, including steroids.
7. 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 (FOR ATHLETES)

At the beginning of each season, all eligible students will submit to urine and alcohol drug 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 Education approved testing facility. The Head Coach is responsible for ensuring that all student athletes and their parent/guardian/custodian properly sign the INFORMED CONSENT AGREEMENT prior to testing. Any student moving into the District shall be tested prior to the time he/she joins the team.

2. RANDOM TESTING

Random testing will be done for athletes during the season and for extra-curricular and volunteers throughout the school year. Each category may have up to 20% of its eligible students tested per random selection. A student may be tested more than once per testing period. In the event of a positive result, the specimen will be sent to a laboratory for confirmation of results and a Certified Medical Review Officer will determine the results.

The Random Selection of students, the scheduling of random tests and the collection of specimens and testing procedures are set forth in Exhibit A.

3. DRUGS FOR WHICH STUDENTS MAY BE TESTED

LSD, Alcohol, Marijuana, Amphetamines, Methadone, Anabolic Steroids, Methaqualone, Barbiturates, Nicotine (Tobacco), Benzodiazepines, Opiates, Cocaine, Propoxyphene (Darvon), or Any substance included in U.S.C. 802 (6), which an individual may not sell, offer to sell, possess, present, 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.

RESULTS OF TEST

1. 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. 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 parents/guardians/custodians.

2. Due Process

After notification of a positive test the student and his/her parent/guardian may, at their own expense, elect to have a portion of the original sample re-tested by an independent certified laboratory of their choice. The district will forward the sample in response to a written request.

Each student who is in violation of this policy will be afforded due process. The student will have the right to appeal the consequences to the building principal. This must be done in writing within seventy-two (72) hours after notification. An appeal may be made to the Board of Education in writing within seventy-two (72) hours of the Superintendent's decision. All consequences will be enforced during the appeal period.

VIOLATIONS

The 1st Violation

For the first positive result, the student will be given the option of:

- A) The student will have to make an appointment with a certified chemical dependency counselor (or at an agency certified by the Ohio Department of Health or the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services) for chemical dependency assessment and then follow the recommendations of the counselor. The parent/guardian/custodian shall be responsible for all expenses and for providing the Building Administrator with documentation that the student completed all recommendations of the counselor. The student will be required to submit to drug testing for the remainder of the current school year.

OR

- B) Denial of participation in interscholastic athletics/extra-curricular events/activities for the remainder of the current season.

The 2nd Violation

- A) The student will have to make an appointment with a certified chemical dependency counselor (or at an agency certified by the Ohio Department of Health or the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services) for chemical dependency assessment and then follow the recommendations of the counselor. The parent/guardian/custodian shall be responsible for all expenses and for providing the Building Administrator with documentation that the student completed all recommendations of the counselor. All students will be denied participation rights for a minimum of 20% of the season, activities or year, whichever is applicable. The student will be required to submit to drug testing for the remainder of the current school year.
- B) Denial of participation in interscholastic athletics/extra-curricular events/ activities for the remainder of the current season and the current school year.

The 3rd Violation

The student is denied participation in athletics/extra-curricular events/activities for one calendar year from the date of notification of the violation.

The 4th Violation

The student is permanently denied participation in athletics/extra-curricular/activities events in the Southern Local School District.

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

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 Southern Local School District.

We understand that testing will be administered in accordance with the guidelines of the Southern Local School District Drug Testing Policy for students.

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 Southern Local 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 Southern Local School 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 Southern Local School Board of 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.

INFORMED CONSENT AGREEMENT
Southern Local Schools

STUDENT NAME _____

GRADE _____

AS A STUDENT:

I understand and agree that participation in athletic/extra-curricular/volunteer activities is a privilege that may be withdrawn for violations of the Southern Local School District Drug Testing Policy.

I have read the Drug Testing Policy and thoroughly understand the consequences that I will face if I do not honor my commitment to the Drug Testing Policy.

I understand that when I participate in any athletic/extra-curricular program/volunteer I will be subject to initial and random urine drug and alcohol testing, and if I refuse, I will not be allowed to practice or participate in any athletic/extra-curricular/volunteer activities.

I have read the informed consent agreement and agree to its terms.

I understand this agreement is binding while I am a student in the Southern Local School District.

STUDENT SIGNATURE

DATE

AS A PARENT/GUARDIAN/CUSTODIAN:

I have read the Southern Local Schools District Drug Testing Policy and understand the responsibilities of my son/daughter/ward as a participant in athletic/extra-curricular/volunteer activities in the Southern Local School District.

I pledge to promote healthy lifestyles for all students of Southern Local School District.

I understand that my son/daughter/ward, when participating in any athletic/extra-curricular program/volunteer, will be subject to initial and random urine drug and alcohol testing, and if he/she refuses, he/she will not be allowed to practice or participate in any athletic/extra-curricular/volunteer activities.

I have read the Informed Consent Agreement and agree to its terms.

I understand this agreement is binding while my son/daughter/ward is a participant in athletics/extra-curricular/volunteer activities in the Southern Local School District.

PARENT/GUARDIAN/CUSTODIAN SIGNATURE

DATE

PARENT/GUARDIAN/CUSTODIAN PRINTED NAME

WORK PHONE