

Lafayette County Drug Testing Procedures

The Lafayette County School Board recognizes the use of alcohol, tobacco, and illegal drugs by students may occur. Students using illegal drugs pose a threat to their own health and safety, as well as to that of other students. Our drug testing policy is a proactive approach designed to create a safe, orderly, healthy and drug free environment for students and to assist them in getting help when needed.

Procedures to be followed for random drug testing of students of privilege are as follows:

1. General Procedures

Parents/guardians/custodians, students and school officials will be informed of the policies and procedures involved in the random drug testing program at the beginning of each school year. A copy of this policy is available on our district web site and will also be made available in paper form upon request.

For participation in any activity considered to be a privilege offered to our students, each student shall sign and return a consent form permitting the school to conduct random drug testing. For the purpose of simplifying these procedures, all activities considered to be offered as a privilege to our students will be referred to as “extracurricular activities”. The student random drug testing consent form must be signed by the student and by a parent/guardian/custodian. The consent form must also be notarized and returned to the school prior to the student participating in any extracurricular activity.

Extracurricular activities are those activities in which any student voluntarily participates. Extracurricular activities include, but are not limited to athletics, cheerleading, band and its auxiliaries, chorus, drama, school clubs, class officers/student government, any other school programs, and driving on campus.

At the discretion of the principal or designee, students participating in extracurricular activities may be randomly tested at any time during the school year. Selection for random testing will be by lottery drawing from a list of participating students.

The principal/designee and vendor shall take all reasonable steps to assure the integrity, confidentiality, and random nature of the selection process. The principal/designee will ensure a current list of students who consent to random drug testing is maintained at all times. This list will be checked for accuracy prior to each random selection.

2. Procedures for Sample Collection and Results

Samples will be collected at a mutually convenient time established by the vendor and principal/designee. Students providing samples will be given as much privacy as possible while providing the samples.

A portion of the sample shall be used for the initial test. If the initial test renders a negative test result, no further analysis will be conducted. If the initial test results are positive, a report will be sent to the Medical Review Officer (MRO).

The MRO will receive each report of positive results and will be supplied with information to determine the correct name of the student whose identifying number appears on each positive test result record. Prior to verifying a positive result, the MRO shall attempt to contact the student's parent/guardian/custodian to afford them the opportunity to confidentially discuss the test result with the MRO. They will also have the opportunity to provide the MRO with the student's medical history and any other relevant biomedical information including the use of any prescription or non-prescription medication that would assist the MRO in determining whether the MRO should verify the test result as positive. If the MRO determines the test result should be deemed negative, no further action shall be taken and the student's test result will be reported to the principal/designee as a negative result. If the MRO confirms a positive test result as reported by the vendor, the MRO shall submit the positive test result to the principal/designee.

Test results will be kept by the principal/designee, secured in a locked file, and maintained separately from students' cumulative records and discipline files. These files will then be destroyed upon graduation of that student. If the student transfers to another school or does not complete school with Lafayette County, the files will be destroyed upon the projected graduation date for that student.

3. Positive Test Conference

The principal/designee shall schedule a positive test conference with the student and his/her parent/guardian/custodian and other appropriate school personnel as deemed necessary to discuss any positive results and consequences.

The parent/guardian/custodian will then have five (5) days from the positive test conference to request, in writing, the remainder of the sample to be tested. The five day window to request the remainder of the sample to be tested begins the day after the Positive Test Conference. This additional test will be at the parent/guardian/custodian's expense. If the second analysis renders a negative result,

then no further action will be taken and all records pertaining to a positive result will be expunged.

If the parent/guardian/custodian does not request the second test or if the second test is positive, then Procedures in the Event of a Positive Result shall be implemented.

4. Procedures in the Event of a Positive Result

Whenever the MRO confirms and reports a positive test result and there is no negative second test result, the following shall occur:

First Positive Result

The student shall be ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activities for a period of 14 days. The 14 days will begin the day following the positive test conference, or the day after Lafayette County Schools receives notice of a positive result and the parent/guardian/custodian has received notification from the school.

In addition to not being eligible for any extracurricular activities, the student will also be required to enroll in an approved substance counseling program. Upon proof of enrollment in an approved substance abuse counseling program, proof of regular attendance, and completion of the fourteen (14) day suspension, the student shall become eligible to participate in all extracurricular activities.

Counseling may be provided by a substance professional, a licensed clinical social worker, or a licensed mental health counselor. Failure to enroll in or complete the aforementioned counseling program shall result in a suspension from all extracurricular activities for one year.

The student must attend a minimum of six (6) sessions which must be completed within a period of six (6) weeks from the date of the positive test conference. Failure to attend required sessions shall result in a suspension from all extracurricular activities for one year.

The substance abuse program shall be at the expense of the student and/or parent/guardian/custodian.

Second Positive Test Result

In the event a student should test positive for a second time within the same school year, the student shall be ineligible to participate in all extracurricular activities for one year from the date of the second positive test conference. A student who has tested

positive for the second time in a given school year will be removed from the list of eligible students to be tested.

Requirements for enrollment, participation, and completion of an approved substance abuse program will be the same as explained under "First Positive Result".

Once the term of suspension is complete, if the student chooses to have his/her privileges restored, the student will sign a consent form and be placed back in the testing pool. If this student should test positive again, the consequences would be the same as for a student who tests positive for the first time.

Definitions

Drugs: Cannabis, the seeds thereof, and the resin extracted from any part of the plant, narcotics, barbiturates and related tranquilizers and any other drug that is listed as a substance in Chapter 983, Florida Statutes. Prescription drugs would also be considered "drugs" under this definition if the student testing positive cannot prove the drugs are authorized to them by prescription.

The Lafayette School Board bans any synthetic drug, such as bath salts, synthetic marijuana, or any other synthetic substance that mimics a drug listed as a substance in Chapter 983, Florida Statutes.