

# Iowa Park CISD

## Student Drug Testing Policy

### Introduction

After three years of deliberation and study, a community task force commissioned by the IPCISD Board of Trustees recommended that our school district establish a mandatory student drug-testing program for students involved in extra-curricular activities at our middle school and high school. On July 13, 2004, the school board approved the policy.

In 2002 the United States Supreme Court ruled the mandatory drug testing of students involved in interscholastic extracurricular activities as legal. In the wake of numerous national statistics that showed a continued rise in the use of illegal drugs by teenagers, the court said, "Testing students who participate in extracurricular activities is a reasonably effective means of addressing the School District's legitimate concerns in preventing, deterring, and detecting drug use (Clarence Thomas, June, 2002)." The court used information from the workplace where mandatory random drug testing has been used for many years. "Employers who have used drug testing have seen a 67-percent drop in positive drug tests. Along with significant declines in absenteeism, accidents, and healthcare costs, they've also experienced dramatic increases in worker productivity (Office of National Drug Control Policy, Drug Testing in Schools, p. 4)."

### Goals of the Drug Testing Policy

It is important to understand that the objectives of this program are not to punish students who use drugs. Although consequences are in place for students who use illegal drugs, the primary objectives of this policy are to deter the use of illegal drugs and alcohol and provide resources of support for those that test positive. The specific objectives of our program are actually listed in the policy. They are:

- A. to maintain a school environment free of alcohol and drugs and its effects;
- B. to educate students to the serious physical, mental, and emotional harm caused by the use of alcohol and illegal drugs;
- C. to prevent injury, illness and harm as a result of the use of alcohol and illegal drugs;
- D. to provide a deterrent to the use of alcohol and illegal drugs by students;
- E. to give students a valid reason to resist peer pressure to use alcohol and other illegal drugs.

### What are the benefits of Drug Testing

In the pamphlet **Drug Testing in Schools**, the Office of National Drug Control Policy explains the benefits of drug testing in schools:

Drug use can quickly turn to dependence and addiction, trapping users in a vicious cycle that destroys families and ruins lives. Students who use drugs or alcohol are statistically more likely to drop out of school than their peers who don't. Dropouts, in turn, are more likely to be unemployed, to depend on the welfare system, and to commit crimes. If drug testing deters drug use, everyone benefits—students, their families, their schools, and their communities.

Drug and alcohol abuse not only interferes with a student's ability to learn, it also disrupts the orderly environment necessary for all students to succeed. Studies have shown that students who use drugs are more likely to bring guns and knives to school, and that the more marijuana a student smokes, the greater the chances he or she will

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be involved in physical attacks, property destruction, stealing, and cutting classes. Just as parents and students can expect schools to offer protection from violence, racism, and other forms of abuse, so do they have the right to expect a learning environment free from the influence of illegal drugs. (p. 5)

**Who will be tested**

In order to participate in the voluntary extracurricular activities at W. F. George Middle School and/or Iowa Park High School, students in grades 7 – 12 must be willing to participate in the drug testing process. Extracurricular activities includes all UIL sanctioned athletic, music, and academic events; FFA; cheerleading; non-UIL sanctioned athletic contests; FHA; CTE; and any other activity where students are involved in interscholastic competitions. The chart below list the specific extracurricular activities subject to this policy:

IPHS and WFGMS Extracurricular Activities (7 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> grade)		
Football	Volleyball	Basketball
Cross Country	Baseball	Softball
Tennis	Track	Golf
Powerlifting	Cheerleading	FFA
FHA	CTE	Academic UIL
One Act Play	Band	Choir

All students participating in these activities will be required to have a signed consent form on file with the appropriate campus office. Failure to sign the form will disqualify the student from participation in the extracurricular activity. The consent form is located with this packet and must be returned and on file before the student may participate.

**Drugs that will be tested for:**

- Drugs that an individual may not buy, possess, use, sell, or distribute under either federal or Texas law. Such drugs include, but are not limited to: marijuana, cocaine, opiates, amphetamines, methaqualone, benzodiazepines, phencyclidine (PCP), methadone, barbiturates, propoxyphene, alcohol and/or their metabolites;
- Adulterants (substances used to mask illegal drugs);
- Performance enhancing drugs;
- All prescription drugs upon reasonable suspicion that they were obtained without authorization;
- All prescription and over the counter drugs upon reasonable suspicion that they are being used in an abusive manner.

**Testing Procedures**

Drug testing is commonly a four-step process: collection, screening, confirmation, and review. Students subject to drug testing will be called out of class, escorted by a school official to the testing site (usually a locker room), and administered a urine based drug test. A certified drug-testing administrator will give instructions and receive the specimen. The test administrator will not directly observe the student giving the sample, but will be present in the restroom while the sample is being given. Samples will be taken under conditions that are no more intrusive to students than the conditions experienced in a public restroom.

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The test administrator takes measures to prevent tampering with the sample. For example, the test administrator will verify the validity of the sample by checking the temperature. Next, a zero tolerance instant test will be used to determine the initial test results of the donor. The test administrator will determine the initial results and all positive samples will be sent to a laboratory to be examined using an analytic technique called gas chromatography/mass spectrometry (GC/MS). The designated representative for Iowa Park CISD will be notified of any samples that are being sent to the lab for further testing. The drug testing company will only release the results or any information pertaining to the results to the designated IPCISD representative.

If a student is in school on test day and fails to report for testing, it will be treated as a positive test. If a student whose name is on the test list should leave school without permission, it will be treated as a positive test.

### **What happens if the test is positive?**

The drug-testing company will inform the designated IPCISD representative of any positive test results. The IPCISD representative will contact the student and the student's parents notifying them of the positive test result and the student's suspension from extracurricular activities.

If a student is tested positive, the student or parent may request a confirmatory retest. The retest may utilize the remainder of the original sample or utilize a hair sample. A confirmatory test will be at the parent's and/or student's expense. Those parents and/or students who are unable to financially provide for the confirmatory retest need to contact the principal's office for a waiver of these fees. The District will inform the original testing contractor to have a separate laboratory conduct the retest. Results of a confirmatory retest will be considered final.

### **Consequences for Positive tests:**

All offenses are cumulative for the student's enrollment in a particular campus. For example, a student who first tested positive as an eighth grade student would have a clean record once he/she advanced to the high school as a ninth grader.

No disciplinary actions shall be taken by the school against the student testing positive other than those listed in this policy. However, this policy does not prevent the school from administering disciplinary consequences for drug and/or alcohol related violations of the student code of conduct. Therefore, if a student is found to be under the influence or in possession of illegal drugs/alcohol, the school will notify the police and take disciplinary actions against the student.

Failure to complete the drug education and counseling requirements of the following consequences will result in the student's continued suspension from extracurricular activities.

### **FIRST OFFENSE**

1. The student shall be suspended from participation in extracurricular activities for 45 school days;
2. The student shall be required to attend practice during the last 15 school days of the suspension before being allowed to compete;
3. The student shall be required to attend a District-approved drug counseling program; and
4. The student shall be subjected to mandatory drug testing for the remainder of the year or for three consecutive negative tests.

**SECOND OFFENSE**

1. The student shall be suspended from participation in extracurricular activities for 90 school days;
2. The student and student's parents, or adult student, shall complete a District-approved drug education/counseling program; and
3. The student shall be required to participate in each random drug test for ten consecutive tests.

**THIRD OFFENSE**

1. The student shall no longer be allowed to participate in any extracurricular activity.

**Refusal to Test**

Each time a student refuses to take a required test, after having signed the consent form, their refusal will be construed as a positive test and the sanctions listed in this section will be enforced.

**Confidentiality**

Student privacy shall be protected to the maximum extent possible during the collection. Records of test results shall remain confidential and provided only to District administrators and personnel responsible for administering this program. Results will not be released to any person outside of the school except as required by law. Results shall not be placed in a student's permanent records file.

**Voluntary Program for students not involved in extracurricular activities**

All students in grades 6 – 12 shall be eligible to participate in the District's drug testing program voluntarily. A student's parent or guardian, or an adult student may sign the consent form to voluntarily participate. After receipt of the consent form the student's name will be included in the program and will be subject to the same consequences as any other student in the program.

Since students participating in the voluntary program are not participating in extracurricular programs, the student has nothing to be suspended from. However, the school will notify the parents and will require the student to attend the approved drug counseling programs.

**Iowa Park CISD Extracurricular Activities  
Drug and Alcohol Policy**

Students participating in extracurricular activities at Iowa Park CISD are expected to adhere to a high set of standards established to deter the use of drugs and alcohol. Extracurricular students should conduct themselves in a manner that will promote a positive image for all students and Iowa Park CISD.

**Drug and Alcohol Use:**

The use of drugs or alcohol at any time will be a violation of rules for all extracurricular activities. School related drug and alcohol offenses and substantiated reports from out-of-school offenses will be subject to this policy. Examples of substantiated out-of-school reports include tickets for MIP and MIC.

**Consequences for Drug and Alcohol Violations:**

All offenses are cumulative for the student's enrollment in a particular campus. This policy does not prevent the school from administering disciplinary consequences for drug and alcohol violations of the student code of conduct. If a student is found to be under the influence or in possession of illegal drugs or alcohol, the school will notify the police and take disciplinary actions against the student.

**First Offense**

1. The student shall be suspended from participation in extracurricular activities for 45 school days; and
2. The student shall be required to attend practice during the last 15 school days of the suspension before being allowed to compete.

**Second Offense**

The student shall be suspended from participation in extracurricular activities for 90 school days.

**Third Offense**

The student shall no longer be allowed to participate in any extracurricular activity.

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Printed name of Student: \_\_\_\_\_

2022-2023 Consent Form for Random Drug Testing

I, \_\_\_\_\_, am a parent/guardian of \_\_\_\_\_, a minor student in the Iowa Park Consolidated Independent School District.

Please initial each of the following spaces indicating your understanding of the accompanying statements. Failure to initial each of these statements will result in an invalid form.

\_\_\_\_\_ I represent that I have the authority to consent to drug/alcohol testing of my child.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand the Iowa Park CISD policy concerning illegal substance use and participation in IPCISD sponsored extracurricular activities.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that it is the practice of IPCISD to conduct random drug/alcohol tests for the purpose of carrying out this policy.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that my child cannot be compelled to give a urine sample. However, failure to give a sample voluntarily will be treated the same as a positive test result.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that if he/she gives a urine sample, it will be tested for drugs and/or alcohol. I understand that giving of a sample, when requested by IPCISD, is a condition of my child's continued participation in extracurricular activities.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that if a test of my child's urine sample reveals the unexplained presence of a drug or alcohol, IPCISD may take action against as prescribed in Policy FNF (LOCAL).

\_\_\_\_\_ I authorize the drug testing company to communicate my child's alcohol/drug test results both orally and in writing to Iowa Park CISD.

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that no physician/patient relationship is established by the collection of this sample and that no privilege of confidentiality will attach to these results.

I hereby release and hold harmless IPCISD and the testing company employed by IPCISD and their trustees, officers, employees, agents, representatives, and medical staff members from any and all liability, claims, damages, and costs that may arise as a result of any action taken on an unfavorable outcome that occurs as a result of this drug/alcohol test.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed name of parent/guardian/ adult student

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed name of Student

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian/Adult Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Grade