



Extra-Curricular Activities Participant and Student Driver Drug Testing Policy

A Statement of Need and Purpose

A program of deterrence will be instituted as a proactive approach to drug free schools. Through driving or participation in extra-curricular activities, students using illegal drugs pose a threat to their own health and safety, as well as to that of other students. The purpose of this program is three fold: (1) to provide for the health and safety of students; (2) to undermine the effects of peer pressure by providing a legitimate reason for students to refuse to use illegal drugs; and (3) to encourage students who use drugs to participate in drug treatment programs. Students involved in extra-curricular activities need to be exemplary in the eyes of the community and other students. It is further the purpose of this program to prevent students from driving to and from school or participating in extra-curricular activities while s/he has drug residues in his/her body, and it is the purpose of this program to educate, help, and direct students away from drug and alcohol abuse and toward a healthy and drug free lifestyle. The program is designed to create a safe, drug free environment for students and assist them in getting help when needed.

The EPCSC has a strong commitment to the health, safety, and welfare of its students and to maintaining the extra-curricular activities in the EPCSC as a safe and secure educational environment.

Introduction

The effective date of this program is August 1, 2007. This program does not affect the current policies, practices, or rights of the EPCSC with regards to or drug and/or alcohol possession or use, where reasonable suspicion is obtained by means other than drug testing through this policy. The EPCSC reserves the right to search any student who exhibits cause for reasonable suspicion of drug and/or alcohol usage. The search may also include the student's locker, belongings, and vehicle.

Scope

Participation in extra-curricular activities is a privilege. This policy applies to all EPCSC students in grades 7-12 who wish to participate in extra-curricular activities that are listed below:

- A. Athletics (participants include, but are not limited to, athletes, cheerleaders, managers, and other athletic student personnel)
- B. Music (participants include, but are not limited to, performing band members, performing choir members, and participants in small group ensembles)
- C. Academic Teams
- D. Drama
- E. Any club or school group which has a paid sponsor

This policy also applies to:

- A. Any student who wishes to drive to school, from school, or during school
- B. Any student who volunteers to be a part of the random drug testing pool

Consent Form

It is mandatory that each student in the above stated categories sign and return the consent form prior to participation in such activities. Failure to comply will result in nonparticipation and/or no issuance of a student driving permit.

Each student shall be provided with a consent form which shall be dated and signed by the student and by the parent/guardian. In so doing, the student agrees to participate in the random drug testing program at the EPCSC and the student's parent/guardian consent to his or her child participating in the random drug testing program.

Non-Punitive Nature of Policy

No student will be penalized academically for testing positive for illegal drugs or banned substances as a result of being randomly tested. The results of drug tests pursuant to this policy will not be documented in any student's academic records. Information regarding the results of drug tests will not be disclosed to criminal or juvenile authorities absent legal compulsion by valid and binding subpoena or other legal process, which the Board will not solicit. This random drug testing policy does not negate the reasonable suspicion drug testing policy.

Banned Substances

For the purposes of this policy, the following substances or their metabolites that can be tested for are considered illicit or banned for extra curricular participants and student drivers.

- a. Alcohol
- b. Barbiturates
- c. LSD
- d. Methaqualone
- e. Phencyclidine
- f. Amphetamines
- g. Benzodiazepines
- h. Marijuana metabolites
- i. Propoxyphene
- j. Anabolic Steroids
- k. Cocaine metabolites
- l. Methadone
- m. Opiates
- n. Other specified drugs

Testing Procedures

- A. At the beginning of each selection date, school year, or sports season, all students wishing to participate in extracurricular activities may be subject to urine testing for illicit or banned substances. Up to ten percent (10%) of eligible students will be randomly tested up to a weekly basis anytime during the school year. Students who refuse to submit to urine drug testing will not be allowed to

practice or participate in designated extra-curricular school activities or to drive until the following school year.

- B. Each student will be assigned a number that will be placed in the drawing by the principal/designee, and numbers will be drawn by the laboratory from a pool of those agreeing to be tested. Testing may occur on any day, Monday through Saturday, and selections will be made from time to time throughout the school year.
- C. No student will be given advance notice or early warning of the testing. In addition, a strict chain of custody will be enforced to eliminate invalid tests or outside influences.
- D. Upon being selected for a urinalysis test under this policy, either by random draw, request of parent/guardian, or a “follow-up” test, a student will be required to provide a sample of valid urine according to the proper protocol and policy of the laboratory conducting the urinalysis.
- E. All students will remain under school supervision until they have produced an adequate urine specimen. If unable to produce a specimen, the student will be given up to twelve (12) ounces of fluid. If still unable to produce a specimen within two (2) hours, the student will be taken to the principal’s office and told s/he is no longer eligible for any of the extra-curricular activities until the following school year. In addition, the parents/guardian will be telephoned and informed the student is unable to produce a sample for the testing procedure and that s/he may be tested at a later date to be reinstated for eligibility.
- F. The specimens will then be turned over to the testing laboratory, and each specimen will be tested for alcohol and “street drugs” (which may include all drugs listed as controlled substances under the laws of the State of Indiana). Also “performance enhancing” drugs such as steroids may be tested.
- G. All specimens registering below 90.5 degrees or above 99.8 degrees Fahrenheit will be invalid. There is heat strip on each of the specimen bottles indicating the validity of the urine specimen by temperature. If this occurs, another specimen must be given by the student.
- H. If it is proven that tampering or cheating has occurred during the collection, the student will become ineligible for all the extra-curricular activities for the remainder of the school year. This will be reported to the parent/guardian.
- I. The laboratory selected must follow the standards set by the Department of Health and Human Services. It must be certified under the auspices of the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Act (CLIA) and the Joint Commission of Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO).

Collection of specimens, chain of custody

The Superintendent will establish guidelines to set up the collection environment, guarantee the validity of specimens, and supervise the chain of custody.

Test Results

- A. This program seeks to provide needed help for the students who have a verified positive test. The student’s and other students’ health, welfare, and safety will be the reason for preventing students from participation in the extra-curricular activities and restrict him/her from driving to or from school.
- B. The principal/designee will be notified of a student testing positive (that is, if the test shows that drugs and/or their metabolites are in the student’s system after utilizing a screening method and confirmatory method). The principal/designee will notify the student and his/her parent/guardian following guidelines for notification established by the Superintendent. The student or his/her parent/guardian may submit any documented prescription, explanation, or information which will be considered in determining whether a positive test has been satisfactorily explained.

- C. If the test is verified positive, the principal/designee will meet with the student and his/her parent/guardian at an EPCSC facility. The student and parent/guardian will be given the names of counseling and assistance agencies that the family may want to contact for help.

A student involved in athletics who tests positive will be subject to the disciplinary consequences outlined in the Athletic Handbook. A student involved in Class A extra curricular activities will be subject to a thirty (30) calendar day suspension. A student involved in Class B extra curricular activities will be subject to suspension from a percentage of the scheduled events. Suspensions that are not completed in the current season/activity/school year will carry into the next season/activity/school year. (See extra curricular classifications on page 8.) A student driver who tests positive for banned substances or alcohol will have his/her driving privileges suspended sixty (60) school days. Suspensions of driving privileges may carry over to the following school year. A student driver suspended for banned substances or alcohol may have his/her suspension reduced to thirty (30) days if the student successfully completes a drug program at a licensed drug and/or alcohol rehabilitation center.

A follow-up test will be requested by the principal/designee following the suspension period and after such an interval of time that the substance previously found would normally have been eliminated from the body. If this follow-up test is negative, the student will be allowed to resume extra-curricular activities and/or driving. If a second positive result is obtained from the follow-up tests, or any later test of that participant, the same previous procedure shall be followed.

- D. Information on a verified positive test result will be shared on a need to know basis with the student's coach or sponsor. The results of negative tests will be kept confidential to protect the identity of all students being tested.
- E. Drug testing results sheets will be returned to the principal/designee identifying students by number and not by name. Names of students tested will not be kept in open files or on any computer. Result sheets will be locked and secured in a location to which only the principal/designee has access.

Statistical reporting and confidentiality of drug test results

The testing laboratory may not release any statistics on the rate of positive drug tests to any person, organization, news publication, or media without expressed written consent of the Board. However, the lab will provide the superintendent and the building principal with a quarterly report showing the number of tests performed, rate of positive and negative tests, and what substances were found in the positive urine specimens upon request.

Under this drug testing program, any staff, coach, or sponsor of the School Corporation who may have knowledge of the results of a drug test will not divulge to anyone the results of the test or the disposition of the student involved, other than in the case of a legal subpoena being made upon that person in the course of a legal investigation. Once again, this will underscore the EPCSC's commitment to confidentiality with regards to the program.

Financial Responsibility

- a. Under this policy, the School Corporation will pay for all initial random drug tests and all initial follow-up drug tests.
- b. A request on appeal for another test of a positive urine specimen is the financial responsibility of the student or his/her parent/guardian.

c. Counseling and subsequent treatment by nonschool agencies is the financial responsibility of the student or his/her parent/guardian.

Certifying Scientist Responsibility

The Certifying Scientist will review all results of urine drug testing. Any urine specimen testing positive for illicit or banned substances will be handled in the following manner:

- A. The Certifying Scientist determines if any discrepancies have occurred in the Chain of Custody.
- B. Depending on the substances found in the urine, if necessary the principal/designee will contact the parent/guardian/custodian to determine if the student is on any prescribed medication from a physician.
- C. If the student is on medication, the parent/guardian/custodian will be asked to obtain a letter from the prescribing physician, within five (5) working days, to document the medications the student is currently taking. Failure to provide such requested information will be considered a positive result.
- D. The Certifying Scientist will then determine if any of the prescribed medications resulted in the positive drug screen.
- E. The Certifying Scientist, based on the information given, will certify the drug test results as positive or negative and report this to the building principal, initially reporting positive results by phone.
 1. For example, a drug screen positive for codeine may be ruled negative by the Certifying Scientist when s/he receives a letter from the treating physician that the student has been prescribed Tylenol with codeine as a pain medication following tooth extraction.
 2. Or, if the student has a positive drug screen for codeine and has no documented physician order for the medication (maybe a parent gave the student one (1) of their pills), this would likely be ruled a positive drug test by the Certifying Scientist.
 3. Drug screens positive for illicit drugs (marijuana, heroin, cocaine, or alcohol, etc.) would automatically be considered positive by the Certifying Scientist.
- F. The Certifying Scientist may use quantitative results to determine if positive results on repeat tests indicated recent use of illicit or banned substances or the natural decline of levels of the illicit or banned substance from the body. If the Certifying Scientist feels the quantitative levels determined to be above the established cut-offs do not reflect current use but natural decay, then a negative result may be reported.
- G. The Certifying Scientist will complete the final review on the drug testing custody and control form and return the appropriate copy to the building principal in a confidential manner.

Other rules

Apart from this drug testing program, East Porter County Middle/High School Departments and the coaching staff/sponsor of each sport/activity have their own rules and requirements. Coaches/sponsors have the necessary authority to enforce those rules. Any student who violates a rule or requirement as a member of a team or activity will be subject to the consequences as defined in those rules and requirements.

Non-Athletic Extra Curricular Activity Classifications

Class A – Positive test results for participants in these activities will result in a 30 calendar day suspension.

Student Council

Foreign Language Clubs

Culture Club
FCCLA
National Honor Society
Key Club
Art Club
Pep Club

Class B – Positive test results for participants in these activities will result in the following suspensions:

25% of the scheduled events/performances/competitions* if there are 4 or more
33% of the scheduled events/performances/competitions if there are 3
50% of the scheduled events/performances/competitions if there are 2
100% of the scheduled events/performances/competitions if there is 1

FFA
Musical Ensembles
Drama Club
Sensations
Academic Teams
Cheerleading (unless it is a part of the athletic program)
Pom Poms
Prom

*Students will be allowed to attend practices during the suspension period. Suspensions not completed in the current season/activity/school year will carry into the next season/activity/school year.