

# WEST ISD: STUDENT DRUG TESTING LEGAL ISSUES AND OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Adapted by David Truitt  
with Permission from Joey Moore

Thursday, May 3, 2018 – SHAC Meeting

# Reminders

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- Strategic Planning Team (SPT) Approved Action Statement
  - 61-3 Vote
- School Health Advisory Council (SHAC) Initiative
- Board **MUST** Approve the Plan
- Public Forum, Information Nights, and Trainings



# Meeting Information

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- SHAC Subcommittee
- Met on:
  - Tuesday, March 20, 2018
  - Tuesday, April 3, 2018
  - Tuesday, April 24, 2018
- Posting Information Online



# Factors to Consider Before Implementing a Student Drug Testing Program

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- Purpose of the drug testing program
- Magnitude of the drug problem in the school
- Previous efforts to eliminate drug problems
- Student populations to be tested
- Connection between drug use and the population to be tested
- Prior written permission
- Procedures for drug testing
- Substances for which the test will screen
- Protection of the students' privacy
- Reliability and use of test results
- Appeal process for positive test results



# Procedures for Drug Testing

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- The Devil is in the Details!
- Review programs in other districts; Don't reinvent the wheel!
- Find experts!
- Stick to the procedure!



# Tips in Implementing a Student Drug Program

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- Communication is key! Clearly communicate need, purpose, and expectations to parents and students before policy is implemented.
- Include education component for positive drug tests
- Follow policy consistently
- Explain positives
- Voluntary participation for students not included is permissible
- Review after Year 1



# West ISD Policy Components

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- Grade Levels
- Purpose
- Definition of Extracurricular Activities/Other Inclusions
- Tested Substances
- Drug Testing Company and Cost
- Number of Random Test per School Year
- Number of Students per Random Test
- Number of Offenses and Penalties



# Sample Policy

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- Crafted from the three Subcommittee Meetings
- Checklist from TASB Policy Department
- Next Steps:
  - Post Sample Policy Online
  - Send out a School Messenger
  - Public Forum on Tuesday, May 8, 2018, at 6:30 PM at West Middle/High School, Room 321
  - Public Forum during School Board Meeting on Wednesday, May 9, 2018, at 6:30 PM at the West ISD Administration Building





Questions?

