

STUDENT DRUG TESTING POLICY

Forbes Road School District considers participating in athletic competition to be a privilege and not a right. Students choosing to participate in athletics are expected to accept the responsibilities, which accompany the privilege. Among these responsibilities is the obligation to be drug, alcohol, and nicotine-free on a year-round basis, for safety reasons. Toward this end, students participating in Forbes Road School District athletics are required to cooperate with and agree to test for drugs in accordance with this policy. (Supreme Court Ruling Action vs. Veronia).

As an athlete a student is a representative of the school district and the community-at-large. The district recognizes athletes as role models for younger students who frequently model their own conduct and lifestyle on that of the student athlete. Thus, when a student chooses to participate in athletics, he or she has also chosen to accept to be a role model, and with that choice comes the responsibility of living a drug, alcohol, and nicotine-free lifestyle. This reasoning is because of safety factors and impaired facilities can be detrimental while participating in sports.

The district wants to provide a legitimate excuse for students to refuse to consume or use drugs, alcohol, or nicotine and to provide assistance for those who have a problem with the substances. It is not the intention of this policy for school district officials to report any positive test results to the law enforcement, or any officials outside the school district, without subpoena.

REASONABLE SUSPICION TESTING

When district officials, including but not limited to administrative and/or professional employees, observe a student who reasonably appears to be under the influence of illegal drugs and/or controlled substances, or unfit for school or extracurricular activities, who poses a potential health and safety threat to him/herself or other substance abuse, they shall notify the Superintendent or Building Supervisor and/or his/her designee, who will observe the student before requiring him/her to be tested for drug and/or other controlled substances. The reasonable appearance of being under the influence of drugs, controlled substances or of other substance abuse shall be determined by personal observations of factors, including, but not limited to the appearance, behavior, speech or body odor, etc. of the student by district officials.

RANDOM TESTING

Testing will be done without prior warning to the student. The dates of testing, the number of tests to be performed, and the identity of the students to be tested shall be determined by the district in its sole discretion, and may be performed at any time. This means that the random testing may occur before, during or after the sports season. Testing may also occur as many times throughout the year, as the district deems necessary.

The district may test up to 70% of each season's athletes randomly. Students selected for testing will be chosen at random by the administrative staff of the district. Testing can only be done by the testing agency contracted by the district or the district staff. Prior to any student being permitted to practice or participate in an athletic event, both the student and his/her parent or guardian must sign a consent form agreeing for the student to participate in drug testing, at any time during the athletic year as defined in this policy. If any student or parent/guardian declines to sign the form, then the student shall not be permitted to participate in a sport, the student shall be required to provide a properly executed consent before being allowed to practice or participate.

Sanctions are intended to apply to participation in P.I.A.A. sanctioned interscholastic sports and to a Forbes Road School District sponsored or sanctioned sports activity. If a student's test indicates that this policy has been violated, or if a student has been observed in possession of drugs or using drugs, or if a student refuses to take a test upon request, then the following sanctions shall apply:

First Offense:

The student shall be suspended from his/her team for the balance of the season, including playoffs, for the particular sport wherein a positive test result is discovered.

Require the student, under parental supervision, to undergo D & A counseling with an outside professional agency approved by the district, without expense to the district.

The student will be tested prior to resuming athletic competition (practices and/or games).

Second Offense:

The student shall be prohibited from participating in interscholastic athletics for the duration of the year.

Nothing in this policy shall curtail or render ineffective any other existing policy of this district with regard to the possession or use of illegal substances or paraphernalia or those policies dealing with expected behavior of students on school property or while engaged in school sanctioned activities.

Reinstatement to student athletics – the student athlete will be required to take a drug test, at parent/guardian expense from a certified lab/hospital, and return a negative reading before reinstatement to any athletic competition will occur.

DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING FOR STUDENT ATHLETES

PERMISSION TO TEST

The Forbes Road School District is committed to providing a safe, drug and alcohol free athletic program. We appreciate your support, encouragement, and cooperation. The cost of the test will be covered by the Forbes Road School District. Tests will be confidential. The selection process will be done by a random sampling process or by a reasonable suspicion.

Please fill out the bottom of this page and return to your coach. Please print your name, address and your son/daughter's name. If any student or parent/guardian declines to sign the form, then the student will not be permitted to participate sports this year at Forbes Road. If a student moves into the district after the first practice begins and wishes to participate in a sport, the student shall be required to provide a properly executed consent before being allowed to practice or participate.

I hereby give permission for the Forbes Road School District and/or designated Hospital to perform a drug and alcohol screen on my son/daughter. I realize the purpose and ramifications of the testing and will follow the guidelines set forth for positive tests.

I understand that my son/daughter will not be punished by suspension or expulsion for a positive test result; however, they will be disqualified from participation in the activity. I also understand that my son/daughter will be required to comply with specific guidelines for further athletic consideration as set forth in this policy. Additional information regarding the drug policy can be found in the Student Handbook.

Parent/Guardian Name **(Please Print)** _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Family Doctor _____ Pharmacy _____

Current Medications _____

As a student athlete, I agree to participate in the drug and alcohol testing program. I have read and understand the information provided in this permission to test form.

Student Name **(Please Print)** _____

Sports _____ **Grade** _____
(list all sports for this school year)

Student Signature _____ Date _____