

Lathrop R-II School District Drug Testing Policies and Procedures

Background

In the past several years, drug abuse among the ages of high schools students continues to rise. The reasons for this increase are many. Students are now exposed to more drug use either at home or by their peers than in the past. Also, drugs are more available to this generation than past generations of Lathrop High School. With this increase of pressure from outside more of them are experimenting with street drugs such as marijuana and cocaine.

Even though Lathrop is a rural community, we are not immune to drug use. Therefore, we need to help our students deal with the pressure they face on a daily basis by giving them a reason not to try drugs.

Purpose:

The purpose of this drug testing program is not to levy discipline against the students but rather help them. If this program can prevent students from trying street drugs or help them with a current problem, then we have been successful. The key component of this program is opening a line of communication between students and parents about the serious matter of drug use and abuse.

A student who is using drugs is a danger to themselves and their fellow students. All students who choose to participate in extra-curricular activities are entitled to do so in a drug free environment. This program will aid in protecting that right.

Who This Program Effects:

All students who wish to participate in extra-curricular activities and their parents must consent to random drug testing of the students as further defined in the policy and administrative procedures. A definition of extra-curricular activities is included in this policy.

Participation in Extra-Curricular Activities

As part of the student's participation in extra-curricular activities the student and their parent must sign a drug testing consent form prior to the date set by the policy and the Administration of Lathrop R-II School District. **Participation in extra-curricular activities is a privilege and not a right as part of the Lathrop R-II School District Educational Program.**

Procedures:

The student and parent/guardian must sign and return the Drug Testing Consent form before the date set by the policy and the Administration of Lathrop R-II School District. This date for fall sports is before the first practice. For non fall sports and other activities is will be 10 days from the 1st day of school. If the student fails to do so, they will not be allowed to participate in extra curricular activities for the entire school year. If a student enrolls in the district after the set date, they will have ten school days from their official enrollment date to sign and return the form. If the form is not signed, then they will not be eligible to participative in extra curricular activities for the rest of the school year.

After the form is returned, the student will be assigned a random number by the Athletic Director. This number will only be seen by the Athletic Director and the district staff designated by the Superintendent to assist the Athletic Director in the administration of the drug testing. This will be the student's number throughout the testing process and will not change.

A few days before the random testing is to occur, the company selected by the School Board of the Lathrop R-II School District will contact the Athletic Director for the numbers only. The company will randomly select the numbers to be tested. Once the numbers are selected, the company will contact the Athletic Director and give him/her the list of numbers. The Athletic Director will identify the students that have been selected. The testing can occur at any point during the school day. When the testing company arrives on site and is ready, the Athletic Director and district staff designated by the Superintendent will notify the students that they have been randomly selected for drug testing. At this time, the Athletic Director and designated staff member will take the student to the site for testing.

At the conclusion of the test, only the Athletic Director and staff members selected by the Superintendent will know the results of the test.

Testing Procedures:

The test administered will be urinalysis. Appropriate steps will be followed to respect the privacy of students while, simultaneously, preventing falsification of testing.

Upon receiving notification from the administration that the student has been selected for a random drug test, the student will be taken to the assigned area and wait until it is his/her turn to produce a specimen. Prior to being called by the test administrator, the student will be given an identification number by a school official. When called by the test administrator, (Employee from the drug testing company), the student will proceed to the testing site. The student will present the identification number to the test administrator, who will record that number on the test recording form. The test administrator will then ask the student to remove hats and outer garments, (if any) and place the contents of their pockets on the testing table. The student will then be asked to

select a collection cup and instructed to open the cup and dump the contents on the testing table. The test administrator will accompany the student to the restroom where they will be instructed to place the cup on a shelf or ledge and wash their hands. When the student finishes drying his/her hands, the test administrator will instruct the student to step into a pre-selected stall and void into the collection cup. The student will be asked not to flush any toilet or use any faucet. When the students complete the collection they will step out of the stall and place the collection cup on a pre-arranged flat surface. The test administrators will then determine if there is sufficient specimen to test, that the specimen has an appropriate temperature, and that there is no foreign color or odor to the specimen. If a bad determination of any of the above take place, the test administrator will reject the specimen and collect a second specimen. If the specimen is acceptable for testing, the student will be asked to again wash his/her hands and then stand by the entrance of the restroom, while keeping the specimen in his/her sight. The test administrator will then open a screening test device and place it in the specimen. When the test administrator completes the screening process, the student will be permitted to leave the test area, unless the initial screening indicates the presence of a drug included on the schools testing agenda. If the initial screening indicates the presence of a drug included on the schools testing agenda, the verification process will be implemented. If a student is unable to produce a urine sample, the student will undergo a time limit of three (3) hours to produce a sample. At that time if the student is still unable to produce a sample, the student must make an appointment with a doctor to see if a medical reason exists to explain the inability to produce a sample.

Verification of Sample:

Verification of sample will vary with the drug testing company that is hired to do random testing with the school district.

Testing Results/Privacy/Confidentiality:

The test results will remain confidential and will only be released to the student, the student's parent/legal guardian, and approved school officials. Regardless of a positive test or not, parents will be notified through a letter that their child was randomly tested that day at school. In addition, the test results will not be used for student discipline and will not become part of the student's permanent record/transcript or communicated to any third party. All files regarding the participants in the program, as well as test results, shall be kept strictly confidential and will be kept separate from the mandatory school files required for each student.

Testing Positive:

If the student tests positive, the results will only be used to determine eligibility for participation in extra-curricular activities as defined in this policy. The results will not be used to suspend or expel a student from school, will not be included in the student's disciplinary record, and will not be communicated to any other third party unless the school district is subpoenaed.

Disclosure of Other Medications

Upon confirmation (by a SAMSHA certified laboratory) of a positive specimen the parents/legal guardian of the student will be asked to bring any prescription medications the student is currently taking to a meeting with a designated school official. Proof of medication can be in the form of a prescription bottle or verification from a doctor. The designated school official will verify with the test administrator, or the administrator's company representative, the validity of the medication producing the positive result. If the medication produces a legitimate medical reason for the presence of the drug the test results will be deemed as negative. If there is not legitimate or acceptable medical explanation the positive result will remain.

Refusal to be Tested:

A student who initially consented to be tested may refuse to be tested. At this time their parent/legal guardian will be contacted by the designated school official to inform them of their student's choice. At this time, the parent/legal guardian will be informed what their choice means and given the chance to change the student's mind. If he/she chooses to continue to refuse the test, he/she will immediately be suspended from participating in extra curricular activities for 365 calendar days.

Consequences

Consequences for a positive test shall be suspension from participation in all school sponsored extra-curricular activities for a period of 45 days from the date the test administrator finalized the results of the test, if the student's activity is in season. If the student's extra-curricular activity is not in season, then the start date will be the first contest of the season. The student will be expected to attend all practice sessions, all meetings and team competitions during the suspension. The suspension can be reduced from 45 to 30 days, if the student and a parent/legal guardian will participate in a substance abuse education program as recommended by a mental health professional certified in substance abuse treatment.

A second positive test will result in a suspension of 180 days, which can be reduced to 90, if the student and a parent/legal guardian will participate in a substance abuse education program as recommended by a mental health professional certified in substance abuse treatment. A third positive test will result in the permanent loss of extra-curricular activities for the remainder of their high school career.

The results of drug testing will be cumulative. For example, if a student tests positive during their freshman year and then again their junior year, they would be considered a second time offender

Before a student can be reinstated to extra-curricular activities, the student must take another drug test at the expense of the student, parent/legal guardian. The second test must show negative for drugs in their system in order to be reinstated in the extra-curricular activity. The lab testing facility must be pre-approved by the school district, and the test must include the substances tested for in the school testing program.

After a student tests positive, he/she will be subject to non-random testing at the request of the administration or coach for the remainder of the student's participation in extra-curricular activities for the current school year.

Drug Counseling and Assistance

Upon request, the Lathrop R-II School District Counselors will provide information on treatment programs and other resources available in the community and surrounding area.

Drugs that the Lathrop R-II School District will be testing for:
Marijuana (THC), Cocaine, Amphetamines (Meth), and Opiates.

The Lathrop R-II School District will pay for random drug screenings unless one is required for reinstatement to extra-curricular activities.

Definition of Extra-Curricular Activities (Policy IGD)

Noncurricular Activity or Group: School-sponsored activities or groups primarily involving students and meeting outside of academic class time, which are not co-curricular.

Sports/Activities

Football	Volleyball	Softball	Girls Golf
Wrestling	Girls Basketball	Boys Basketball	Boys Golf
Boys Track	Girls Track	Baseball	Academic Bowl
Dance	Cheerleading	Forensics	Color Guard
Drama			

Groups

FCCLA	Student Council
FBLA	NHS