STUDENT DRUG TESTING PROGRAM

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

**Policy on Student Possession & Use of Illegal Drugs**

**and**

**Par­ticipation in Extracurricular Activities**

The **Wellston Schools Board of Education**, in an effort to protect the health and safety of its students from illegal and/or performance-enhancing drug use and abuse, thereby setting an example for all other students of the **Wellston Public School District**, has adopted the following policy for drug testing of students participating in extracurricular activities.

**Purpose and Intent**

It is the desire of the Wellston Schools Board of Education, administration, and staff that every student in the Wellston Public School Dis­trict refrains from using or possessing illegal drugs. The administration and Board of Education realize that their power to restrict the possession or use of illegal drugs is limited. The sanctions of this policy relate solely to limiting the opportunity of any student determined to be in violation of this policy to participate in extracurricular activities. This policy is intended to complement all other policies, rules, and regulations of the Wellston Public School District regarding possession or use of illegal drugs.

Participation in school-sponsored extracurricular activities such as interscholastic athletics at the Wellston Public School District is a privilege. Students who participate in extracurricular activities are respected by the student body and are expected to hold themselves as good examples of conduct, sportsmanship, and training. Accordingly, students in extracurricular activities carry a responsibility to themselves, their fellow students, their parents, and their school to set the highest possible examples of conduct, which includes avoiding the use or possession of illegal drugs. Addi­tionally, this school district is contracted to follow the rules and regulations of the OSSAA whose rules specifically state: “*A student under a discipline plan or whose conduct or character outside the school is such as to reflect discredit upon the school shall be ineligible until reinstated.*”

The purposes of this policy are to prevent illegal drug use, to educate students as to the serious physical, mental, and emotional harm caused by illegal drug use; to alert students with possible substance abuse problems to the potential harms of illegal drug use; to help students avoid drugs; to help students get off drugs; to prevent injury, illness, and harm as a result of illegal drug use; and to strive within this school district for an environment free of illegal drug use and abuse. This policy is not intended to be disciplinary or punitive in nature. The sanctions of this policy relate solely to limiting the opportunity of any student found to be in violation of the policy to participate in any extracurricular activities. There will be no academic sanction for violation of this policy.

Illegal drug use of any kind is incompatible with participation in any extracurricular activities on behalf of the school district. For the safety, health, and well-being of the students of the district, this policy has been adopted for use by all participant students in grades 6-12.

**Definitions**

1. **Extracurricular participant(s), or extracurricular activities participant(s), or extracurricular participating student(s)** means a member of any middle school or high school Wellston Public School District sponsored extracurricular organization. This includes any student that represents Wellston Schools in any extra-curricular activity such as FFA, FCCLA, BPA, Academic Team, Band, Cheerleaders and Athletics.
2. **Extracurricular** means those activities that take place outside the regular course of study in school and **participants** are those students involved in those activities.
3. **Drug use test** means a scientifically substantiated method to test for the presence of illegal or performance-enhancing drug or the metabolites thereof in a person’s urine.
4. **Random tests** are given at least six (6) times per academic year to participants from the pool.
5. **Random selection basis** means a mechanism for selecting students for drug testing that:

A. Results in an equal probability that any student from a group of students subject to the selection mechanism will be selected, and

B. Does not give the School District discretion to waive the selection of any student athlete or extracurricular activities participant selected under the mechanism.

6. **Follow up tests** can be weekly, at random, or any time a student who has tested positive may be under suspicion of being under the influence.

7. **Illegal drugs** means any substance that an individual may not sell, possess, use, distribute, or purchase under either federal or state law. Illegal drugs include, but are not limited to, all scheduled drugs as defined by the Oklahoma Uniform Controlled Dangerous Substance Act, all prescription drugs obtained without authorization, synthetic substances, and all prescribed and over-the-counter drugs being used for an abusive purpose.

8. **Performance-enhancing drugs** include anabolic steroids and any other natural or synthetic substance used to increase muscle mass, strength, endurance, speed, or other athletic ability. The term “performance-enhancing drugs” does not include dietary or nutritional supplements such as vitamins, minerals, and proteins that can be lawfully purchased in over-the-counter transactions.

9. **Positive**, when referring to a drug use test administered under this policy, means a toxicological test result which is considered to demonstrate the presence of an illegal or a performance-enhancing drug or the metabo­lites thereof using the standards customarily established by the testing laboratory administering the drug-use test.

10. **Reasonable suspicion** means a suspicion based on specific personal observations concerning the appearance, speech, or behavior of a student athlete or extracurricular participant, and reasonable inferences drawn from those observations in the light of experience. Information provided by a reliable source, if based on personal knowledge, shall constitute reasonable suspicion. In the context of performance-enhancing drugs, reasonable suspicion specifically includes unusual increases in size, strength, weight, or other athletic abilities.

11. **Self-referral** is when an extracurricular participant believes he/she will test positive for illegal or performance enhancing drugs, prior to selection and submission for a drug test under this policy, and so notifies the principal, athletic director, coach, or sponsor of such belief.

**Procedures**

Student participants in extracurricular activities shall be provided with a copy of this Policy and an extracurricular activities student drug testing program consent form that must be read, signed, and dated by the student, parent or custodial guardian, and coach/sponsor before a participant student shall be eligible to participate or practice in any extracurricular activity. The consent shall provide a urine sample:

**A.** as chosen by the random selection basis; and

**B.** at any time requested based on rea­sonable suspicion to be tested for illegal or performance-enhancing drugs.

No student shall be allowed to practice or participate in any extracurricular activity unless the student has returned the properly signed consent form.

Random drug testing will be conducted at least six (6) times per academic year from a list of all extracurricular participants in off-season or in-season activities. The School District will determine at least six (6) times per academic year the number of students’ names to be drawn at random to provide a urine sample for drug use testing for illegal or performance-enhancing drugs.

In addition to the drug test required above, any extracurricular participant may be required to submit to a drug use test for illegal drugs or performance-enhancing drugs or the metabolites thereof at any time upon reasonable suspicion by the athletic director, principal, extracurricular activity sponsor, or coach of the student.

The Wellston School District will determine any necessary fees to be collected, if any, from students who are drug tested and when those fees will be collected. The cost of random tests will be borne by the school district or appropriate activity fund. All required follow up drug tests will be borne by the student.

Any drug use test required by the School District under the terms of this policy will be administered by or at the direc­tion of a professional laboratory chosen by the school district that uses scientifically validated toxicological methods. The professional laboratory shall be required to have detailed, written specifications to assure chain of custody of the specimens, proper laboratory control, and scientific testing.

All aspects of the drug use testing program, including the taking of specimens, will be conducted to safeguard the per­sonal and privacy rights of students to a maximum degree possible. The test specimen shall be obtained in a manner designed to minimize intrusiveness of the procedure. In particular, the specimen must be collected in a restroom or other private facility with an enclosed stall or stalls**.**

The school principal shall designate a coach, activity sponsor, or other school employee (including the principal), and/or a contracted agent, all of whom shall be of the same sex as the student, to accompany the student to a restroom or other private facility and monitor the collection of the test specimen. The monitor shall not observe the student while the specimen is being produced, but the monitor shall be present outside the stall to listen for the normal sounds of urination in order to guard against tampered specimens and to ensure an accurate chain of custody. The monitor shall verify the normal warmth and appearance of the specimen. If at any time during the testing procedure the monitor has reason to believe or suspect that a student is tampering with the specimen, the monitor may stop the procedure and inform the school principal who will then determine if a new sample should be obtained.

The monitor shall give each student a form on which the student may list any medi­cations he/she has taken or is taking or any other legitimate reasons for having been in contact with illegal drugs or performance-enhancing drugs in the preceding 30 days. The parent or legal guardian shall be able to confirm the medication list submitted by their child during the 24 hours following any drug test. The medication list shall be submitted to the lab in a sealed and confidential envelope.

If an initial drug-use test is positive, or deemed adulterated or inconclusive, the initial test result will be subject to confirmation by a second and different test of the same specimen. The second test will use the gas chromatography/mass spectrometry technique. A specimen shall not be reported positive unless the second test utilizing the gas chromatography/mass spectrometry procedure is positive for the presence of an illegal drug or the metabolites thereof. The unused portion of a specimen that tested positive shall be preserved by the laboratory for a period of six (6) months or to the end of the school year, whichever is shorter. Student records shall be retained until the end of the school year.

**Conference and Confidentiality**

If a drug use test for any student has a positive result, the laboratory shall contact immediately the school principal with the test results. Procedures for maintaining confidentiality will be practiced. The school principal shall contact as soon as practical the parent or custodial guardian of the student, the student, and the head coach/sponsor, and schedule a conference to discuss the positive test results. At the conference, the student will be given the opportunity to submit additional information to the school principal or to the laboratory of the drug testing company. The school district shall rely on the opinion of the laboratory that performed the test in determining whether the positive test result was produced by other than consumption of an illegal drug or per­formance-enhancing drug. Under no circumstance will results from a drug test under this policy be voluntarily turned over to any law enforcement officer or agency.

**Appeal**

A student who has been determined by the school principal to be in violation of this policy shall have the right to appeal the decision to the school superintendent or the superintendent’s designee(s). Such appeal must be lodged within five (5) business days of notice of the initial report of the offense as stated in this policy, during which time the student will remain eligible to participate in any extracurricular activities. The school superintendent or designee(s) shall then determine whether the original finding was justified. There is no further appeal right from the school superintendent’s decision and the decision shall be conclusive in all respects. Any necessary interpretation or application of this policy shall be in the sole and exclusive judgment and discretion of the school superintendent, which shall be final and nonappealable

**Consequences**

1. **First Positive Test.** In order to continue participation in the extracurricular activity, the extracurricular participating student and his/her parent/guardian must, within five (5) days of the joint meeting with the school principal, show proof that the student has received drug counseling from a qualified drug treatment program or counseling entity. Additionally, the student must voluntarily submit to a second drug test to be administered within two (2) weeks in accordance with the testing provisions of this policy.

If the parent/guardian and student agree to these provisions, the student may continue to participate in the activity. Should either the parent/guardian or student not agree to these provisions, the consequences listed in this policy for the second offense shall be imposed.

2. **Second Positive Test.** The extracurricular participating student shall be immediately suspended from participation in all extracurricular activities for fourteen (14) calendar days. The extracurricular participating student may not participate in any meetings, practices, scrimmages or competitions during this period. In order to continue participation in the extracurricular activity, the extracurricular participating student must show proof that the student has successfully completed an additional four (4) hours of substance abuse education/counseling from a qualified drug treatment program or a qualified drug entity. The extracurricular participating student shall be randomly tested for the remainder of the school year, and the time and date of such tests will be unknown to the student and shall be deter**m**ined by the school principal.

These restrictions and requirements shall begin immediately and shall be consecutive in nature, unless a review appeal is filed following receipt of a positive test.

3. **Third Positive Test in the Same School Year.** The extracurricular participating student shall be completely suspended from participation in all extracurricular activities including all meetings, practices, performances, and competition for the remainder the school year, or eighty-eight (88) school days (1 semester) whichever is the longer.

4. **Self-Referral.** An extracurricular participating student who self-refers to the school principal before being notified to submit to a drug test will be allowed to remain active in all extracurricular activities. However, the student will be considered to have committed his/her first offense under this policy, and will be required to retest as would a student who has tested positive.

5. **Refusal to Submit to a Drug Test.** A participating student, who refuses to submit to a drug use test authorized under this policy, shall not be eligible to participate in any extracurricular activities including all meetings, practices, performance and competitions for the remainder of the school year. Additionally, such student shall not be considered for any extracurricular activity honors or awards given by the school.

The cost per test is subject to change and will be determined on an annual basis by the Wellston Public Schools Board of Education.

OSSBA Revised Policy FNCFD

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