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## **STUDENTS - DRUG/ALCOHOL TESTING POLICY**

Adoption Date: June 9, 1998; Revised July 12, 2005; Revised February 12, 2013;  
Revised August 14, 2018

Legal Ref: IC 20-34-2

Cross Ref:

The Westfield Washington Schools (WWS) recognizes that in the course of exploring new ideas and broadening their base of experiences, students may make poor choices and take unacceptable risks with a high probability of long-term negative consequences. When this happens, it is the responsibility of the Board and the staff it employs, to intervene. The use of illegal drugs, alcohol, and tobacco are examples of poor choices that require interventions such as those implemented through this Policy.

### **Individualized Suspicion**

All students, regardless of age, who exhibit behavior which leads WWS authorities to have reasonable suspicion to suspect the student is under the influence of a controlled substance may be immediately required to submit to a drug/alcohol screen administered at WWS's expense. Furthermore, WWS may subject items in said student's possession to test to determine if those items contain drugs or alcohol. WWS may pay for such testing of items in the student's possession.

Factors which the administration will consider may include, but are not limited to:

1. Odor of alcohol/marijuana/smoke;
2. Glassy, dilated, bloodshot eyes, or dark circles under eyes;
3. Appears dazed, giddy;
4. Staggering walk;
5. Slurred or rapid speech;
6. Incoherent thought processes;
7. Disruptive, aggressive, physically threatening, out of control, or unusual behavior;
8. Bragging or talking to other students about alcohol or drug use;
9. Noticeable withdrawal from favorite activities and friends, or
10. Physical indicators from an objective assessment by the school nurse or health care representative.

If the test is positive, all future drug tests will be done at the parent's/guardian's or student's expense.

Refusal to submit to a drug test will be considered an admission of being under the influence of alcohol or other drugs. This is a violation of school rules and will be dealt with according to the student discipline procedures outlined in WWS student handbooks.

The administration will make a reasonable attempt to apprise the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the situation.

## **Random Drug Testing**

### Objectives

The purpose of the random (“suspicion less”) testing program is not punitive, but to assist students and their parents in deterring drug/substance use and aiding any users to cease this harmful practice by providing a minimally intrusive diagnostic tool to identify and disclose it to parents, while rendering other assistance to guide students toward healthy, safe, and drug-free participation in school activities. This is not intended to deprive students of school attendance or to affect academic progress. Students involved in athletics and who park vehicles on school grounds need to be free of drugs, alcohol, and other harmful substances in order to safely and successfully participate in these activities. The need to ensure student health and safety is the primary reason for restricting students from participating in athletics and parking on school grounds if they test positive for drug/alcohol abuse.

### Composition of the Group to Be Tested

All High School students who participate in athletics, are issued a WHS parking permit, or voluntarily enters the program with parental/guardian consent (collectively, “Activities”) are subject to random drug and alcohol testing, and are deemed to have consented to the student drug and alcohol testing program. A consent form will be provided and is required to be executed by the student and parent/guardian.

### Use of Test Results

The program is not intended to be punitive or disciplinary in nature. Its purpose is to identify a student with drug/alcohol residues in his/her system, to provide notification to the parent/guardian, and to educate, help and direct students away from drug and alcohol use and toward a healthy, safe, and drug-free participation in school activities. The result of a positive test will be shared with the appropriate individuals involved with the student’s Activities and a determination will be made regarding the student’s participation in those Activities moving forward. Test results will be secured in a location accessible only by an Administrator in the office of Student Services.

Refusal to submit to a drug test will be considered an admission of being under the influence of alcohol or other drugs. This is a violation of school rules and will be dealt with according to the student discipline procedures outlined in WWS student handbooks.

The Superintendent, or his or her designee, may develop appropriate procedures and administrative guidelines.