

Student Drug & Alcohol Testing Policy for **Extracurricular Activities**

The Geary Board of Education, in an effort to protect the health and safety of its students from illegal drug and/or alcohol use and abuse, thereby setting an example for all other students of the Geary 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 board of education, administration, and staff that every student in the Geary Public School District refrains from using or possessing illegal drugs and/or alcohol. The administration and board of education realize that their power to restrict the possession or use of illegal drugs and/or alcohol 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 Geary Public School District regarding possession of use of illegal drugs and/or alcohol.

Participation in school-sponsored extracurricular activities such as interscholastic athletics at the Geary 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 and/or alcohol. 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 purpose of this policy are to prevent illegal drug and/or alcohol use, to educate students as to the serious physical, mental, and emotional harm caused by illegal drug and/or alcohol use; to alert students with possible substance abuse problems to the potential harm of illegal drug and/or alcohol use; to help students avoid drugs and/or alcohol; to help students get off drugs and/or alcohol; to prevent injury, illness, and harm as a result of illegal drug and/or alcohol use; and to strive within the school district for an environment free of illegal drug and/or alcohol 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 and/or alcohol 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 grades 7 –12.

Definitions

1. **Student athlete** or athlete means a member of the junior high or high school district-sponsored interscholastic sports team. This includes any extracurricular activity.
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 and/or alcohol use test** means a scientifically substantiated method to test for the presence of illegal drugs and/or alcohol.
4. Random tests are given monthly to participants from the pool.
5. **Random selection** basis means a mechanism for selecting students for drug and/or alcohol testing that:
 - a. Results in 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 monthly, at random, or any time a student who has tested positive may be under suspicion of being under the influence.
7. An **illegal drug** or alcohol means any substance, which an individual may not sell, possess, use, distribute, or purchase under either federal or state law. Illegal drugs include, but is not limited to, all scheduled drugs as defined by the Oklahoma Uniform Controlled Dangerous Substance Act, all prescription drugs obtained without authorization, and all prescribed over-the-counter drugs being used for abusive purpose.
8. **Positive**, when referring to a drug and/or alcohol test administered under this policy, means a toxicological test result that is considered to demonstrate the presence of an illegal drug and/or alcohol using the standards customarily established by the testing laboratory administering the drug and/or alcohol use test.
9. **Reasonable suspicion** mean 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 are based on experience.
10. **Self-referral** is when a participant believes he/she will test for illegal drug and/or alcohol, prior to submission for a drug and/or alcohol test under this policy, 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 and alcohol testing policy consent form, which must be read, signed, and dated, by the student and parent or custodial guardian before a participant student shall be eligible to practice in any extracurricular activity. The consent shall provide a mouth swab (a) as chosen by the random selection basis, and (b) at any time requested based on reasonable suspicion to be tested for illegal drugs and/or alcohol. No student shall be allowed to practice or participate in any extracurricular activities unless the student has returned the properly signed consent form.

Drug and/or alcohol use testing for extracurricular participants will also be chosen on a monthly selection basis from a list of all extracurricular participants in off-season or in-season activities. The school district will determine a monthly number of students' names to be drawn at random to provide a mouth swab sample for drug use testing for illegal drugs and/or alcohol.

Any drug and/or alcohol use test required by the school district under the terms of this policy will be administered by or at the discretion 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 suspects of the drug and/or alcohol 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 private facility. 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 and/or alcohol in the preceding 30 days. The parent or legal guardian shall be able to confirm the medication list submitted by their child during 24 hours following any drug and/or alcohol test. The medication list shall be submitted to the lab in a sealed and confidential envelope.

Confidentiality

If the drug and/or alcohol use test for any student has a positive result, the laboratory will contact the athletic director or designee with the results. Procedures for maintaining confidentiality will be practiced. The superintendent or designee will contact the principal, the student, and the head coach/sponsor, and the parent or custodial guardian of the student and schedule a conference. At the conference, the student will be given the opportunity to submit additional information to the superintendent or to the lab. The school district will rely on the opinion of the laboratory, which performed the test in determining whether the positive test result was produced by anything other than the consumption of an illegal drug and/or alcohol.

Positive

If the initial drug test is positive, the initial test result can be subject to confirmation by a urine test from the participant. This test must be completed within 48 hours of receiving the positive test results and will be at the cost of the participant. The urine test must be completed at a certified testing facility.

Appeal

A student who has been determined by the superintendent or designee to be in violation of this policy shall have the right to appeal the decision to the superintendent or the superintendent's designee(s). Such appeal must be presented within five business days of the notice of the initial report of the offense as stated in this policy, during which time the student will not be eligible to participate in any extracurricular activities until the appeal has been determined. The superintendent or designee(s) shall then determine whether the original finding was justified. There is no further appeal right from the 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 superintendent, which shall be final and cannot be appealed.

Consequences

All positive tests are cumulative from 7th to 12th grade.

First offense: If a student athlete or extracurricular activity participant is found to be using or possessing drugs and/or alcohol it will be considered a violation of the Geary Drug and Alcohol Policy. On the first offense, the student athlete or participant will be ineligible to compete for (14) calendar days and a minimum of two (2) contests. With the permission of his/her parent or custodial guardian and coach/sponsor, the athlete or participant may be allowed to practice and meet with the team during this period. Parent or custodial guardians will be notified at the earliest date possible that the participant will attend counseling and/or awareness classes provided by the district.

Second offense: On the second offense, the participant will be suspended from all extracurricular activities for (60) school days. Such suspension will extend into the succeeding school year, if necessary. Parent or custodial guardians will be notified at the earliest date possible that the participant will attend counseling and/or awareness classes provided by the district.

Third offense: Suspension from athletic or extracurricular activity participation for one (1) calendar year. Such suspension will extend into the succeeding school year, if necessary. Parent or custodial guardians will be notified at the earliest date possible that the participant will attend counseling and/or awareness classes provided by the district.

Fourth offense: Suspension from athletic or extracurricular activity participation for the remainder of junior high and/or high school career. Parent or custodial guardians will be notified at the earliest date possible that the participant will attend counseling and/or awareness classes provided by the district.

Self-Referral: A student who self-refers to the athletic director, principal, coach, or sponsor before being notified to submit to a drug and/or alcohol test will be allowed to remain in all extracurricular activities. However, the student may only remain active for their first self-referral. Also, the student will be considered to have committed an offense under this policy, and will be required to retest as would a student who has tested positive.

Refusal to submit a drug and/or alcohol test: If a participant student refuses to submit to a drug and/or alcohol test under this policy, the test will be considered failed. Therefore it will also be an offense. If a student is attending school, but for some reason does not make it to the drug and/or alcohol test, this will be assessed as a refusal.

Geary Public Schools Drug & Alcohol Policy *Consent Form*

We have received, read, and understand the Geary Public Schools Drug and Alcohol Policy. Furthermore, we realize that students cannot participate in any extracurricular activity unless they have returned a completed consent form that is properly signed and dated by the parent and participant. We also understand that by signing this form participants may, at any time, be selected randomly or by reasonable suspicion for drug and/or alcohol testing. We agree to cooperate with Geary Public Schools in the drug and alcohol testing in accordance with this policy.

Date: _____

Extracurricular Activity Participant printed name

Participant Signature

Parent or Custodial Guardian printed name

Parent/Guardian Signature