

POLICY

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5535 BREATHALYZER TESTING

Alcohol use by students is illegal and poses a serious threat, not only to the student's own well-being, but also to the well-being of the entire school community. Alcohol use will not be tolerated during school hours, on school property, or at any school-sponsored activity or event during or after school hours. Students who violate the action pursuant to the Board's policies on Substance Abuse (5530).

When determining possible alcohol use or intoxication by a student at a school-related function, the safety of the student is the primary concern. An assessment of a student's suspected alcohol use may be aided by the use of a breath alcohol testing device which indicates the presence or absence of alcohol. The purpose of having breath alcohol testing available is as a deterrent to alcohol use.

School Sponsored Dances/Proms

Each student entering a school-sponsored dance/prom may be required to submit to a breathalyzer test as a condition of admission. The administration will determine at which school-sponsored dance/prom the breathalyzer test procedures will be used.

1. The administration will determine the manner by which the students will be tested: entire group, pre-determined random selection, or based on individualized reasonable suspicion. For purposes of this policy, indications of reasonable suspicion may include, but are not limited to, such characteristic alcohol odor, slurred speech, unsteady gait, lack of coordination, presence of an alcohol container, bloodshot or glazed eyes, or other similar information.
2. The trained administrator or trained staff member present at such events has the authority to test and retest any individual suspected of being under the influence of alcohol even if the student has a negative test upon entering the event. Any student attending these school sponsored events may be required to take a breathalyzer test administered by a trained member of the staff or administration prior to entering the event, during the course of the event, or upon leaving the event.



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3. The breathalyzer will be administered by a trained staff member in the presence of a school administrator. All administrators and staff members to be responsible for the use of a breathalyzer test will be trained in the use of the machine. Active and passive breathalyzers may be used.
4. There must always be two people present when the observation checklist is completed or the breathalyzer is administered (either another school administrator or a school staff member).
5. Any student who tests positive will be given a second test after a waiting period of twenty (20) minutes and denied entrance to the event. The student will be in the custody of a staff member until the second test is administered.
6. If this second test is also positive, the student will be denied entrance to the event, and detained by school officials until parents/guardians arrive. The student will be subject to disciplinary procedure for using alcohol at a school sponsored event pursuant to Board policy 5530.
7. If the second test is negative, the student will be retested within twenty (20) minutes, denied entrance to the event and remain in the custody of a staff member. If the third test is negative, the student will be allowed entrance to the event. If the third test is positive, the same procedure as in number 6 will be followed.
8. Students who refuse the test will be denied entrance to the event and detained until parents/guardians arrive to remove them. The student will be subject to disciplinary procedures for using alcohol as a school sponsored event pursuant to Board policy 5530.
9. Students who test positive for alcohol or refuse to take the breathalyzer test upon determination that there is reasonable cause to suspect that they have consumed alcohol will be subject to all school rules relating to the use and/or possession of alcohol pursuant to Board policy 5530.
10. Students who test positive for alcohol as a result of suspicion-based testing will



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be subject to the Board's policy 5530.

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