

Lamesa Independent School District

DETERRENTS TO THE USE OF DRUGS

OBJECTIVES

1. To give students a valid reason to resist peer pressure to use drugs and alcohol.
2. To rehabilitate, not criminally punish students involved.
3. To educate children and adults as to the serious physical, mental, and emotional harm caused by the use of drugs.
4. To create a safe and healthy learning environment for our students.

INTRODUCTION

The Lamesa Independent School District is concerned about our students' use of illegal substances. Beginning during the 2003-2004 school year, Lamesa ISD began developing a uniform drug and alcohol deterrence policy, to guide all of our high school extracurricular programs and staff.

The programs covered under this policy were chosen for a reason. First, participation in these programs is a privilege for our students. These programs are not mandatory, and they carry certain expectations and responsibilities. Second, the students in these programs are leaders in our schools. With the eyes of the community and school on them, these student-leaders must be setting a positive example. Finally, the success of these programs requires healthy students. In order for our students to be leaders in, and out of, the classroom, they must have healthy bodies and minds. We believe that this drug and alcohol deterrence policy will help us create that healthy environment.

The Lamesa ISD supports the parents in their endeavor to raise their children to be healthy and productive members of our society. This policy is not intended to interfere with a parent's right to raise their child, but to aid them by giving them a support system at school that will empower them and their children in attempting to produce positive behaviors.

Definitions

- **Activities** - Clubs and organizations, band, athletic programs, cheerleading, literary activities, one act play, including all performances, contests, demonstrations, and other events of these mentioned activities.
- **Biological Testing** - for this plan, the scientific analysis of urine and/or saliva (with the exception of reasonable suspicion tests for alcohol, which may be conducted by a urinalysis, breathalyzer, or saliva test) for the purpose of detecting an illegal drug or alcohol.

- **Drug Paraphernalia** - any equipment, product, or material that is used, or is intended to be used, to conceal, inject, inhale, or otherwise introduce into the human body, an illegal drug.
- **Good Standing** - Having met requirements in order to be able to pursue all educational and extra-curricular activities as are available, with no restrictions or consequences.
- **Illegal Drug** - any drug which is not legally obtainable; any drug which is legally obtainable, but has not been legally obtained; any prescribed drug not being used by the person for whom prescribed for the prescribed purpose; any over-the-counter drug being used at a dosage level different than recommended by the manufacturer, being used for a purpose other than intended by the manufacturer; and any drug being used for a purpose not in accordance with bona fide medical therapy. Examples of illegal drugs include, but are not limited to: cannabis substances such as marijuana and hashish, cocaine, heroin, phencyclidine, PCP, and so-called designer drugs and look-alike drugs.
- **Possession** - the presence of any detectable amount of an illegal substance, whether on the person, their personal or assigned property, in the care, control, or custody of the person.
- **Premises of Lamesa ISD** -all property of the school district, including, but not limited to, the facilities and surrounding areas on district-owned or leased property, parking lots, and storage areas, or within 300 feet of school property. The term also includes school district owned, leased or used vehicles and equipment, wherever located.
- **Random Drug Testing** -a testing process in which selection for testing is made by a method employing objective, neutral criteria, which ensures that every person subject to testing has a substantially equal statistical chance of being selected. This method does not permit subjective factors to play a role in selection.
- **Reasonable Suspicion** - based on specific personal observation concerning the appearance, speech, or behavior of the student that indicates the effects of drug or alcohol use. Information provided by a school employee, if based on personal knowledge, may also constitute reasonable suspicion.
- **Self-Report** – a one-time opportunity for participants to inform the administrator in charge of personal drug or illegal substance use. A self-report may not be given on the day of testing or after the student has been notified of testing. The administrator in charge will then determine if the report was made in “good faith” and proceed accordingly.
- **Under the Influence** – See LISD board policy FNCF (LOCAL).

PROHIBITED BEHAVIOR

Illegal Drugs

The use, sale, or offer to sell, purchase, transfer, manufacture, or possession in any detectable manner of an illegal drug or alcohol, by any student, is strictly prohibited.

Drug Paraphernalia

The sale, offer to sell, purchase, transfer, manufacture, or possession of drug paraphernalia by any student, is strictly prohibited.

DRUG TESTING

Participants

Students, grades seven through twelve, who attend Lamesa ISD, and participate in extra-curricular activities, and all other students who volunteer to be tested.

Contract

All students who will participate in extra-curricular activities and their parents/guardian will be required to sign a consent form agreeing to be a part of the drug testing program for Lamesa ISD. The form will only have to be signed once, and will be valid for the entire time the student is enrolled at Lamesa ISD. Following the inception of this program, incoming participating seventh graders will take a mandatory drug test, and all participating students, grades seven through twelve, will be involved in random testing. Students entering the district after the first day will be given the test at the first random testing date following a 30 day grace period from the date of enrollment. Parental consent for a student to submit to biological testing is required as a condition, grades seven through twelve, to be able to participate in extra-curricular activities. Refusal by a student or his/her parent/guardian, to submit to biological testing, will result in a forfeiture of the privilege to participate in the extracurricular activities

Drug Testing Procedures

Licensed professionals will conduct testing, and lab work will be done at a government certified lab. Testing procedures are defined by the company selected by the school district to perform the testing. Students and/or parents/guardians will have the opportunity to provide information concerning prescription medication being taken by the student. Parents are permitted to be in attendance at the time of testing.

Confirmation of Positive Test Result

Confirmation of a positive test will follow the guidelines set forth by the company selected by the school district to perform the testing.

Appeal Process

Parents/guardians of any student receiving a confirmed positive test result will have an opportunity to request a second test of the initial sample. If the retest results are positive, the student will be subject to consequences as per this policy.

Confidentiality

All information relating to biological testing or the identification of persons as users of illegal drugs will be protected by Lamesa ISD as confidential, unless otherwise required by law, overriding public health and safety concerns, or authorized in writing by the person (parent or

guardian) in question. Results of tests will be known only to the parents/guardians of the student in question and to the administrator(s), coach(s)/sponsor(s) involved. Sponsors and coaches will be notified of suspension from activities when notified of positive results. All school officials must maintain confidentiality and are subject to disciplinary action if they reveal test results to anyone other than parents or other authorized school officials.

Consequences

Consequences are cumulative throughout the middle and high school years. All students coming in new to the district will begin with a clean record.

Consequences for a positive drug test (mandatory or random), and for confirmed use or admission of drug use or possession, away from school, are as follows:

If an athlete, a positive Drug Test is considered a **Severe Offense** in accordance with the Lamesa ISD Athletic Policy.

First Offense

Mandatory substance abuse counseling. The student will be suspended from all in-season or on-going events/activities for 15 consecutive days with scheduled practices and games/competitions (days with no practice or games/competitions will not count towards the suspension) or the student will be required to complete 15 hours of Community Service within 20 calendar days. If Community Service hours are not completed in 20 calendar days, the student will be suspended until hours are complete. If in athletics, the student and his/her parents will be required to sign an *athletic probationary contract*. For drug offenses, the student will be required to fulfill the requirements listed in the drug-testing policy, even in cases where the use is not discovered through testing. During the suspension period, attendance at practices will be mandatory.

Second Offense

Mandatory substance abuse counseling. The student will be suspended from all in-season or on-going events/activities for 25 consecutive days with scheduled practices and games/competitions (days with no practice or games/competitions will not count towards the suspension) or the student will be required to complete 45 hours of Community Service within 60 calendar days. If Community Service hours are not completed in 60 calendar days, the student will be suspended until hours are complete. If in athletics, the student and his/her parents will be required to sign an *athletic probationary contract*. For drug offenses, the student will be required to fulfill the requirements listed in the drug-testing policy, even in cases where the use is not discovered through testing. During the suspension period, attendance at practices will be at

the coach's/sponsor's discretion. If an athlete/participant is placed in ISS or AEC, they are also suspended from practice.

Third Offense The Athlete/Participant will be permanently removed from all extracurricular activities.

*****Any student testing positive will be removed from the random testing pool, and will be required to be tested at the time of each random testing, for a minimum period of one calendar year.**

A student may become eligible to participate in extra curricular activities at the beginning of the next school year if they test clean and meet the following criteria:

- 1. Must serve a minimum 60 school day suspension**
- 2. 60 hours of documented community service**
- 3. Outstanding attendance**
- 4. No discipline referrals**
- 5. Passing all classes**
- 6. Meeting with student, parent, superintendent, principal, and appropriate director of extra curricular activity**

Implementation of Plan

Implementation of the plan will take place in the fall of the 2004-2005 school year. Participating students, grades seven through twelve, will have a thirty-day grace period after being notified of the program, prior to the administration of the initial mandatory tests. In addition, any student, during the thirty-day grace period, will be allowed to self-report a substance abuse problem. The self-report of a substance abuse problem by a student during the first thirty days or at any time after the initial mandatory test and before a first positive test, will result in the individual being administered the following consequences:

- Mandatory substance abuse counseling.
- Mandatory testing (on the day of random testing) for one calendar year.
- No suspension from activities for a self-report.
- Any further non-suspension consequences outlined by an extracurricular policy.

LAMESA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

PARENTAL CONSENT FOR BIOLOGICAL TESTING

(For all students, grades 7-12, who are involved in extra-curricular activities, and any student volunteering)

I _____ as parent or guardian of _____, a student enrolled in Lamesa High School hereby agree to the following for the duration of his/her enrollment at Lamesa ISD:

I understand the school district's policy regarding substance abuse in its extracurricular programs. I understand that it is the practice of the district to conduct drug and alcohol tests for the purpose of carrying out this policy.

I understand that my child cannot be compelled to give a biological specimen. I understand that if he/she gives a biological specimen, it will be tested for drugs and/or alcohol. I understand that the giving of biological specimen, when requested by the district, is a condition of my child's being in good standing, and is a condition of my child's continued participation in extracurricular activities. I understand that if a test of my child's specimen reveals an unexplained presence of a drug and/or alcohol, the district will implement the steps associated with the drug testing policy.

Prescription drugs currently being taken as prescribed:

Comments:

At this time, I hereby agree to my child giving a urine specimen.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Printed Name

Sponsor/Coach

Student Signature

Social Security Number

Printed Name

Student I.D. Number

All participating students, grades 7-12, are required to turn this form in to the office of principal prior to participating in extra-curricular activities.

LAMESA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM

Please sign, date, and return this form, along with a signed parental consent form, **prior to participating in extra-curricular activities**

I HAVE RECEIVED AND READ A COPY OF THE LAMESA I.S.D. DRUG DETERRENT POLICY. I UNDERSTAND THAT THIS POLICY IS PART OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S RULES, AND THAT IT APPLIES TO ALL LAMESA I.S.D. STUDENTS, GRADES SEVEN THROUGH TWELVE, WHO PARTICIPATE IN EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES FOR THE DURATION OF THEIR ENROLLMENT AT LAMESA ISD.

Print Name

Social Security Number

Student Signature

Date

Sponsor/Coach

Date

