**POTOSI R-3 SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**DRUG TESTING POLICY**

Potosi R-3 School District reserves the right to conduct a program of random testing of high school and middle school students participating in extra-curricular activities and interscholastic athletics for the use of controlled substances, as defined by applicable law. Purposes of the program include prevention of drug and alcohol abuse; safety of students; education of students and parents or guardians about the serious physical, mental, and emotional harm caused by alcohol and drug abuse; and maintaining a school environment where students can be free from alcohol and drug abuse.

The Random Drug Testing Program is mandatory for all students participating in extra-curricular and interscholastic athletics under the District’s sponsorship. These activities include but are not limited to, all MSHSAA sanctioned activities. Students who do not participate in the Random Drug Testing Program will suffer no adverse consequences, but will not participate in any extra-curricular activities or interscholastic athletics. The Random Drug Testing Program does not affect other policies and practices of the Potosi School District in dealing with drug or alcohol possession or use where reasonable suspicion is obtained by means other than the mandatory and random sampling addressed herein.

**Procedures and Guidelines**

Consent: Before any student can participate in extra-curricular or interscholastic athletics, both the student and parent/guardian must consent to the student’s participation in the Drug Testing Program: Both the student and the parent/guardian must complete the attached consent form indicating that they understand the policies and procedures involved and agree the student may participate. Only after providing the coach or sponsor of each school-sponsored activity in which the student wishes to participate with a complete, signed form will the student be allowed to participate in that activity.

**Selection:** All students participating in a school-sponsored activity may be tested at random during the activity’s season. The coaches and sponsors will forward each student’s consent form to the Athletic Director. Each student will be assigned a number. One cross-referenced list of names and numbers will be maintained for the high school and one for the middle school students by the Athletic Director. Only the Athletic Director will have access to the list. Sixteen of the participating student’s numbers will be randomly selected each month for testing. Testing will be conducted during the months of August through April. When a selection for testing is done, a range of numbers will be put in a random number generator and the first ten numbers generated will be tested that month. The same process will be used for the middle school and the first six names drawn will be tested that month. The numbers will be written down from the random number generator by the Athletic Director or his designee. The Athletic Director will notify the students whose numbers have been selected. Upon receiving a notice from the administration that the student has been selected for a random drug test, the student will be escorted to thenurse’s office (or other designated location) where the test will be administered by a certified drug testing collector.

**Privacy and Confidentiality:** The testing method will be a urine sample. Appropriate steps will be taken to respect the privacy of students while, at the same time, preventing the falsifications of testing. The students will be identified only by the testing number. The test results will remain confidential and will be released to the student, parent/guardians, and the coach or sponsor affected. In addition, the test results will not be used for other student discipline purposes or restrictions other than participation in school-sponsored activities and potentially any honors related to those activities, and will not become part of the student’s school record. All currently available drug tests have the possibility of producing a “false-positive.” This means that, if the student is taking any over-the-counter or prescription medications, the test may produce positive reading. In addition, certain foods have been known to produce false-positive results. Students who test positive will be requested to disclose the identity of any prescription medication they were taking at the time of the test. All files regarding the drug testing program will be kept separate from the mandatory school files required for each student. The test results shall not be made known to any school officials other than the athletic director and/or other school administrators and school board members. Any negligent or intentional disclosure of test results by any school official to anyone who does not have a need to know may be grounds for disciplinary action. Test results will be turned over to the police or other law enforcement authorities in accordance with state law.

**Testing and Verification of Sample:** Each sample will be tested for substances which a student may not sell, possess, use, distribute or purchase under either Missouri or Federal law. The test will be collected and verified by drug testing professionals. A second sample will be required per the labs discretion in the event of a positive test for verification. In the event of a conclusive positive result, the student and parent/guardian may choose to have a test conducted by an independent, certified lab using a urine sample taken by drug testing professionals. An independent test submitted by the student, parent/guardian will not be paid for by the Potosi R-3 School District, and would be done only at the parent/guardian’s expense.

**Consequences:** If, after testing and verification, a student tests positive, it will be treated as competent and substantial evidence that student has used the substance for which that student tested positive. In response to a first instance of positive result the student will be penalized as described in these guidelines for incidences of controlled substance and/or alcohol use including suspension from competition and practices for a period of two weeks. Any official practice days allowed by MSHSAA and used by respective teams will count as suspension days if applicable (i.e. Saturday and Sunday practices). In addition, the Athletic Director shall schedule a non-random follow-up test after such an interval of time that the substance previously found would be eliminated from the body if no intervening drug has been used. Any subsequent second positive test while the student is enrolled in the District will result in the student being restricted from participation (practice and contests) for the remainder of that sport season. Before being allowed to return to competition, the student again will be tested and must test negative.

Drug counseling and assistance programs will be urged by Potosi School District for any student testing positive under this policy. If requested by the parents or guardians, the school counselors will provide assistance in obtaining help for the student. The Potosi R-3 School District will not be responsible for the costs of any counseling or subsequent treatment. The Potosi R-3 School District shall pay for any testing it requests under this program. Any additional, independent test submitted by the student, parents/guardians will not be paid for by the Potosi R-3 School District.

Students suspended from participation in extra-curricular activities and interscholastic athletics due to a positive test under this program are required to attend, but not to participate in all games, practices or other activities while under participation suspension to remain a member of their respective activity/team.

**DRUG TESTING PARTICIPATION AND CONSENT FORM**

I have read and understand the Potosi R-3 School District Student Activity/Athletic policy. I agree that participation in school-sponsored extra-curricular activities and interscholastic athletics is a privilege and not a right. I am aware of the School District’s requirements for participation in school-sponsored activities and agree to abide by the requirements and penalties outlined in the student handbook. I am also aware that individual coaches and sponsors may impose requirements and/or penalties upon participation.

I agree to participate in the Random Drug Testing Program at the Potosi R-3 School District in exchange for the opportunity to participate in any school-sponsored extra-curricular activities or interscholastic activities. I understand that my signature below authorizes the school to obtain a urine sample from the student whose name appears below, if he/she is selected as part of the random selection procedures described in the student handbook I also understand my signature on this form authorizes the drug testing lab to perform a drug test on the urine sample to test only for the substances which an individual may not sell, possess, use, distribute, or purchase under Federal or Missouri law. I also understand that in the event the student is selected for testing, the student and the student’s parent/guardian will be asked to conditionally disclose over-the-counter or prescription medications the student has taken. I also understand that currently available drug tests are not 100% reliable and that false-positive tests may result.

Student Signature Printed Name

Parent/Guardian Signature Grade

Date