

### **POLICY 5.615**

**5-A** I recommend that the Board approve development of the proposed new Policy 5.615, entitled "Drug and Alcohol Testing of Student Athletes."

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# Development

### **CONSENT ITEM**

- This proposed Policy has been drafted to conform to the U.S.Supreme Court rulings (Board of Education Independent School District No. 92 of Pottawatomie County v. Earls, et al., 536 U.S. 822 (2002), and Vernonia School District 47J v. Acton, 515 U.S. 646 (1995) which upheld drug testing of student athletes, students participating in extra-curricular activities, or students with parking passes. From these and other case law, the proposed Policy has been drafted to encompass the successful components identified from the cases and a review of the school board policies at subject in the cases. The proposed Policy provides the following.
  - A safety rational for the illicit drug and alcohol testing program and concern over student welfare with the goal of reducing drug use by student athletes. See sections 1 (Findings and Purpose) and 2 (Applicability of the Policy).
  - o The program is non-punitive, resulting only in suspension from the interscholastic athletic activity. See sections 2.b, 5.a and 8.
  - Use of Medical Review Officer and no requirement for the student to report medications taken to anyone other than the Medical Review Officer. See section 6.f.
  - Parental Consent Forms. See sections 6a. and 10.
  - Minimal intrusion during the collection process, affording maximum privacy possible (with no observed collections). See section 6.d.
  - Progressive consequences if more than one positive drug test results for a student. See section 8 (Consequences).
  - Test result actions do not include law enforcement involvement. See sections 2.d and 7.
  - A confirmatory testing process. See section 6.e & g.
  - Establishment of specific and strict confidentiality procedures such as keep drug test results separate from other records and information on results restricted to a "need to know" basis. See section 7 (Confidentiality).
  - Options/referrals for treatment. See section 8 (Consequences).
  - Destruction of drug testing records upon graduation or departure from district.
     See 7 (Confidentiality).

#### **POLICY 5.615**

# DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING OF STUDENT ATHLETES

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- 2 3 1. Findings and Purpose.-- Although the School Board desires that no student use or 4 possess alcohol and illegal or performance enhancing drugs, we recognize that an 5 increasing number of students in the School District and throughout our nation are involved 6 in the illegal use of drugs and alcohol. Such illegal use of drugs and alcohol by students. 7 during school hours and at other times, continues to have a direct detrimental impact upon 8 students' behavior, academic performance and safety and may cause permanent physical 9 and mental harm. The School Board also finds that some students who participate in 10 interscholastic athletics and who are popular role models among their peers at school are 11 also involved in the illegal use of drugs and alcohol. Student athletes involved in such 12 conduct will also experience other harmful affects including but not limited to: interference with athletic and academic performances, which affects athletic eligibility; increase risk of 13 14 injury to themselves and to their teammates, athletic opponents or others with whom they 15 participate in athletic events; impairment of judgment; decrease of reaction time and 16 reflexes; inability to adequately perceive pain; and reduction of motivation and level of 17 discipline necessary to any athletic program.
  - a. State and federal laws authorize school districts to conduct drug testing of student athletes, as the participation in school-sponsored interscholastic athletics is a privilege. Student who participate in athletics are representing the school district and the community. Accordingly, students electing to participate in athletics have a responsibility to themselves, their fellow students, their parents and their school to set the highest possible example of conduct, sportsmanship, and training, which includes avoiding the use or possession of controlled substances and/or illegal drugs.
    - b. In order to accomplish its purposes, this Policy establishes a program of education and counseling to deter the unlawful use of alcohol and other drugs and provides for the suspension or termination of participation in interscholastic athletics when deterrence is unsuccessful. To determine compliance with the Policy, a testing program is provided to identify student participants who are unlawfully using alcohol and other drugs. For these students, the Policy provides incentives for rehabilitation through possible reinstatement to the designated interscholastic athletic activity.
    - c. <u>Based upon the above factors, the School Board has a vital interest in maintaining a positive learning environment that is safe and healthy for all of its students and to deter and reduce the illegal use of drugs and alcohol by student athletes. For the safety, health and well being of student athletes, this Policy is for all participants in interscholastic athletics in grades 9-12. The purposes of this Policy include:</u>
      - i. to provide for the health and safety of student athletes;
      - ii. to educate student athletes concerning the problems and detrimental affects of

39			illegal drug and alcohol use:		
40 41		iii. to prevent injury, illness, and harm for student athletes that may arise as a result from illegal drug use:			
42 43			iv. to establish standards of conduct for District student athletes, with the goal of reducing or eliminating alcohol or drug use by student athletes:		
44 45 46 47 48 49			v. to identify those student athletes who may be misusing drugs and alcohol and identify those substances being used, to encourage and facilitate appropriate intervention counseling and treatment for any identified drug and alcohol dependency and provide reasonable assurances that students wishing to participate in interscholastic athletics are medically and physically competent to do so:		
50 51			vi. to encourage any student athlete with a dependence on, or addiction to, alcohol or other drugs to seek help in overcoming the problem;		
52 53			vii. to work cooperatively with parents by assisting them in keeping their children free from drug and alcohol abuse; and		
54			viii. to protect the reputation of the school system and its students.		
55	2.	<u>App</u>	licability of Policy		
56 57		a.	This Policy applies to all students who choose to participate in interscholastic athletics in the School District.		
58 59		b.	No student shall be penalized academically for testing positive for alcohol or drugs pursuant to this Policy.		
60 61 62 63		C.	Confidentiality of the drug and alcohol test results shall be maintained at all times. Such results and information obtained in the course of administering this Policy shall not be utilized by the School District for disciplinary purposes other than as set forth in this Policy.		
64 65 66 67 68 69		d.	This Policy is not designed to be used nor shall it voluntarily be used in any manner to provide a source of information for law enforcement agencies or for the prosecution of the student. Without specific authorization from the student athletic or parent/guardian if the student is not of legal age, the Principal or designee shall not release test results of any student athlete to any person other than as required by law or by a lawfully issued subpoena or court order.		
70 71 72		e.	In order to accomplish its purposes, this Policy establishes a program of education and counseling to deter the illegal use of drugs and alcohol and provides for the suspension or termination of participation in interscholastic athletics when deterrence		

- is unsuccessful. To determine compliance with this Policy, a testing program is
   provided to identify student athletes who are unlawfully using drugs and alcohol. For
   these students, the Policy provides incentives for rehabilitation through possible
   reinstatement to the designated interscholastic athletic activity.
- 77 3. Effective Date.-- This Policy shall become effective as a pilot project at the beginning of the second semester of the 2008/2009 school year and shall be initiated in Fall 2009 at all Palm Beach County public high schools with interscholastic athletics programs.
- 80 4. **Definitions.--** For purposes of this Policy, the following terms and phrases shall be defined as follows:
- a. <u>Alcohol means any beverage, mixture or preparation, including any medications or other products, containing alcohol or ethanol.</u>
- b. <u>Chain of custody refers to the methodology of tracking specified materials or substances for the purpose of maintaining control and accountability from initial collection to final disposition for all such materials or substances and providing for accountability at each stage in handling, testing and storing specimens and reporting test results.</u>
- c. <u>Confirmation test, confirmed test, confirmed drug test means a second analytical</u>
  procedure used to identify the presence of a specific drug or metabolite in a
  specimen, which test must be different in scientific principle from that of the initial test
  procedure and must be capable of providing requisite specificity, sensitivity, and
  quantitative accuracy.
- d. <u>Drugs mean any substances or drugs identified in Schedules I through V of 21 United</u>
   States Code Section 202 (Controlled Substances Act) and as further defined by 21
   CFR 1300.11 through I300.15 and Section 893.03, Florida Statutes, and shall include.
   without limitation, cannabinoids (marijuana), amphetamines, benzodiazepines, ethanol (alcohol), cocaine, opiates, and Propoxyphene.
- 99 e. <u>Medical Review Officer or "MRO" is a licensed physician who has agreed to provide</u>
  100 services for the purpose of reviewing drug test results and communicating with the
  101 student athlete concerning any positive drug test result as more specifically described
  102 herein.
- f. Parent shall mean the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of a student athlete.
- 104 g. Performance-enhancing drugs include anabolic steroids and other natural or synthetic
  105 substance use to increase muscle mass, strength, endurance, speed or other athletic
  106 ability. The term does not include dietary or nutritional supplements such as vitamins,
  107 minerals and protein which can be lawfully purchases in over-the-counter
  108 transactions.

- h. <u>Positive test results refer to a drug test administered pursuant to this Policy will be</u>
  deemed to have rendered a positive result indicating the presence of a drug if the
  quantity as determined by an initial laboratory analysis followed by a confirmation
  analysis of the remaining portion of a split sample.
- i. <u>Random selection basis means a mechanism for selecting student athletes for drug testing that:</u>
  - i. results in an equal probability that any student from a group of students (pool) subject to the selection mechanism will be selected, and
  - ii. <u>does not give the School District discretion to waive the selection of any student athlete selected under the mechanism.</u>
- j. <u>Student athletes are any high school students enrolled in the School District who are</u>
  participating in or applying for participation in any interscholastic athletic program or
  any student who has participated in any interscholastic athletic program during the
  current or during the prior school year as indicated by the Florida High School Athletic
  Association rolls, including practices and contests under the control and jurisdiction of
  the School District.
- 125 5. **Policy.**-- It is the policy of the School Board that any student who participates in interscholastic athletics shall be subject to drug testing in accordance with this Policy.
  - a. <u>Standard of Conduct for Student Athletes.--</u> The use or possession of a drug, as defined herein, by a student athlete at any time is both illegal and detrimental to that student athlete's ability to participate in interscholastic athletics and is hereby prohibited. Any student athlete determined to be in violation of this Policy is subject to the intervention measures and disciplinary action related to his or her participating in interscholastic athletics, which may include suspension or removal from athletic participation as provided herein.
- b. <u>Student Code of Student Conduct.-- Nothing contained in this Policy for drug testing</u>
  for student athletes shall be construed to limit the application and enforcement of the
  Student Code of Conduct, including all of its provisions pertaining to drugs and
  alcohol use discovered by means, observations, events or actions not administered or
  taken pursuant to this Policy.

# 139 6. **Drug Testing Procedures**

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a. <u>Consent Form.--</u> Each student athlete shall be provided with a copy of the
"Student Athlete Drug and Alcohol Testing Consent Form" which shall be read.
signed and dated by the student athlete and the parent or legal guardian before such
student shall be eligible to practice or participate in any interscholastic athletics. Such
consent form shall be completed by student athletic participants each school year.
The consent form requires the student athlete to provide a urine sample: (a) when the

- student athlete is selected by the random selection basis to provide a urine sample;
  and (b) at any time the head coach believes there is reasonable suspicion to test for
  illegal or performance-enhancing drugs. No student shall be allowed to practice or
  participate in any extracurricular activities involving interscholastic athletics unless the
  student has returned the properly signed "Student Athlete Drug and Alcohol
  Testing Consent Form."
  - b. Orientation Session.-- Each year prior to the commencement of practice sessions for the interscholastic athletic activity, an orientation session will be held with the student athletes to educate them about the Policy and the sample collection process, privacy arrangements, drug testing procedures. At such session, each student athlete shall be provided a copy of this Policy. The head coach of the interscholastic athletic activity shall be responsible for the orientation session and explaining the Policy, and for preparing an educational presentation to acquaint the student athlete with the harmful consequences of drug and alcohol use and abuse.

# c. Random Drug Testing Process

- i. A confidential testing schedule shall be devised by the testing coordinator provided for by the School District. Drug testing of student athletes shall occur monthly throughout the school year where such athletes shall be selected at random using a numerical selection process where each student athlete's name and identity remain unknown until the random selections are completed. Retesting of student athletes following a first offense or first positive drug test result shall occur as specified in paragraph (6)(g) below.
- ii. <u>Group Size.--</u> A total of five (5) students from each high school shall be randomly selected for testing each month, to allow specimen collections to be carried out quickly, and to minimize the student's loss of class time. Upon selection of the student athletes, the testing coordinator and the athletic director shall insure, without exception, that the selected student athlete is tested. It shall be the responsibility of the testing coordinator and athletic director to insure that all students on the athletic activity roster have submitted the consent form.
- d. Sample Collection Procedure.-- Those student athletes who are selected for drug testing shall be required to produce a urine sample under the supervision of such person or vendor authorized by the School District and an athletic coach or school administrator in a manner which will minimize intrusiveness and embarrassment to the student athlete while also insuring that there is no tampering with the urine sample by the student athletes or others. Male student athletes shall be required to produce a urine sample at a restroom urinal while being observed from behind by a male lab technician, athletic coach or school administrator. Female student athletes shall be required to produce a urine sample while in a restroom stall while a female lab technician, female athletic coach or female school administrator remains outside the stall. The monitor shall not observe the student while the specimen is being

produced, but the monitor shall be present outside of the stall to guard against tampered specimens and to insure an accurate chain of custody. Each urine sample container will be checked for appropriate temperature and for any signs of tampering and will be sealed and labeled with a number or other means of identification which does not disclose the student athlete's name.

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- e. Sample Analysis Procedures.-- The sealed urine sample containers will be delivered to the testing laboratory through a verifiable chain of custody. A portion of the urine sample will then be analyzed. If that initial analysis renders a negative result, then no further analysis will be conducted. If the initial analysis renders a positive result, then a second analysis of the remaining portion of the urine sample will be conducted for the purpose of confirmation of the positive result. If such confirmation analysis renders a negative result, then the drug test will be deemed negative and no further analysis or action will be taken. If the confirmation analysis renders a positive result, then the drug test result will be deemed positive and a report of such results will be delivered to the Medical Review Officer bearing only a number to identify the student without the student's name appearing on that report.
- f. <u>Medication.--</u> Student athletes who test positive for drugs and who are or have been taking prescription medication shall disclose that fact and provide verification (either by a copy of the prescription or by a physician's written authorization at the request of the Medical Review Officer.
- Medical Review Officer's Review.-- The Medical Review Officer ("MRO") will receive g. all reports of positive drug test results and will be supplied with information to determine the correct name of the student athlete whose identifying number appears on each positive test result report. The MRO shall have knowledge of substance abuse disorders and appropriate medical training to interpret and evaluate a student athlete's confirmed positive drug test result, together with his or her medical history or any other relevant biomedical information that the student athlete or his or her parents wish to provide. Prior to verifying a positive drug test result, the MRO shall contact the student athlete whose name coincides with the identifying number on the positive drug test report and that student athlete's parents to afford them the opportunity to confidentially discuss the test result with the MRO and provide the MRO with the student athlete's medical history and any other relevant biomedical information that would assist the MRO in determining whether he or she should verify the drug test result as positive or deem that result to be negative. If the MRO determines that the test result should be deemed negative, then no further action shall be taken and the student athlete's test result along with all other previous negative test results will be reported to the school principal as a negative result. If the MRO verifies that a positive drug test result as reported by the laboratory is indeed positive, then the MRO shall submit a report of that positive drug test result to the student athlete's school principal identifying that student athlete by name. If the student athlete is 18 years of age or will turn 18 years of age during the sports season, the student must agree to release all test results to the student's parent(s) or legal guardian(s).

- h. <u>Positive Test Conference.--</u> In the event of a positive test result, the principal shall schedule a conference with the student, the student's parent(s) or legal guardian(s), and the athletic direct to discuss the test results and to advise the student athlete and parent(s) or guardian(s) of the consequences and the procedural rights under this Policy.
- i. <u>Retesting.-- Retesting of student athletes who are on probation because of a previous positive drug test or other violation of this Policy shall be processed in the manner described above.</u>
- 236 7. Confidentiality .-- The School District respects the privacy of its students and shall 237 maintain confidentiality regarding any drug testing of athletics pursuant to this Policy. All 238 tests, records and subsequent actions shall be kept by the principal, secured in a locked 239 filed and maintained separately from the student's regular educational file and in a secured 240 area. Employees will not release records of drug tests or any resulting action to anyone 241 other than the student and/or his or her parent or quardian without written authorization 242 from the student and/or his or her parent or guardian. Such records and files of the student 243 athlete shall be destroyed upon the student's graduation or if no longer a student, upon the 244 student's projected graduation. Information on a verified positive test will be shared with 245 only the principal, coaches or personnel who "have a need to know" for the purposes of 246 preventive treatment. Under no circumstances will results from a drug use test under this 247 Policy be turned over to law enforcement authorities.
- 248 8. Consequences. -- Any student athlete whose drug test administered pursuant to this
  249 Policy renders a positive test result or who otherwise violates this Policy shall be punished
  250 as follows:

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- a. First Offense or First Positive Drug Test Result.-- For a first positive drug test result, the student athlete shall be suspended for a period of ten (10) days from participation in all interscholastic athletic activities. However, the student athlete shall continue attending the school in which he or she is regularly enrolled, and, shall be allowed to resume practice and participation in interscholastic athletics under a probationary status provided the student complies with or has complied with the following conditions:
  - i. <u>Condition 1.--</u> As a condition of probation the student athlete shall be referred to the District's Alternative to Suspension Program for Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs, or elect to receive the services of an approved licenses substance abuse treatment provider approved by the Chief of Safety and Learning Environment, and required to comply with all recommendations resulting from the student's drug assessment and evaluation. Upon the student's presentation of documentation that s/he has completed the recommendations, the student athlete's probationary status shall terminate. If a student terminates active participation in the recommendations, he or she is no longer eligible to participate in school athletics for the remainder of the current sports season and

268 <u>may not participate in any future school athletic until all recommendations are</u> 269 <u>complied with and completed;</u>

- ii. <u>Condition 2.--</u> As a condition of probation the student athlete will be subject to recurring drug tests at times that would not be previously disclosed to the student athlete to deter the student athlete from committing a subsequent violation of this Policy.
- b. <u>Subsequent Offense or Subsequent Positive Drug Test Results.-- Upon a determination that a student athlete is guilty of a second or subsequent violation of this Policy or has a second or subsequent positive drug test result, the student athlete shall be prohibited from participation in all interscholastic athletics one full calendar year following the end of the athletic season during which the second offense or second positive drug test occurs. For example, if a basketball player has a second positive drug test result during the middle of the basketball season, he or she would be prohibited from participating in basketball and any other interscholastic athletics for the remainder of that basketball season and for one full calendar year thereafter. In addition, the student athlete must attend the District's Alternative to Suspension Program for Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs, or elect to receive the services of an approved licenses substance abuse treatment provider approved by the Chief of Safety and Learning Environment, and required to comply with all recommendations resulting from the student's drug assessment and evaluation.</u>
- c. <u>Adulteration of Sample.--</u> A student athlete who knowingly attempts to alter, adulterate, dilute or in any way manipulate a urine sample to change the outcome of the test results, shall be prohibited from participation in all interscholastic athletics for one full calendar year following the end of the athletic season
  - d. Refusal to Be Drug-Tested.-- A student athlete who declines or refuses to submit to a drug test as required under the provisions of this Policy or intentionally fails to report to the prescribed place at the prescribed time to be drug tested shall be prohibited from participation in all interscholastic athletics for one full calendar year following the end of the athletic season
- 9. Appeal Procedures.-- In addition to the opportunity afforded to the student athlete and his or her parents to discuss that student athlete's confirmed positive drug test result with the MRO, a student athlete whose positive test result has been verified and forwarded by the MRO to the school principal for the imposition of consequences as provided herein shall be entitled to procedural due process as follows:
- 302 a. Notice.-- The principal or his or her designee shall notify the student athlete and his or her parent that the student athlete's positive drug test result has been verified by the MRO or that the student athlete has otherwise violated this Policy, describe the disciplinary action to be taken and advise the student athlete and his or her parents of their right to schedule a due process hearing. The student, or the student's parent(s)

307 <u>or legal guardian(s), may contest the test result by informing the principal within 48</u> 308 <u>hours of notice of the positive test results and consequences imposed on the student.</u>

b. Hearing.-- If requested by the student athlete or his or her parents, the principal shall conduct a hearing within a reasonable period of time following notification to the student athlete and parents of the notice described in paragraph A above. The student athlete and parent must attend the hearing and may provide evidence and call upon witnesses or submit written statements, as they deem appropriate. The principal shall render a decision and provide the student athlete and parent with a written record of that decision at the hearing or within five (5) days of the hearing. The principal's decision shall be final and shall not be subject to any further administrative appeal.

# 10. Consent Form

# School District of Palm Beach County, Florida Student Athlete Drug and Alcohol Testing Consent Form

# a. Statement of Purpose and Intent

- i. Participation in school-sponsored interscholastic athletic activities at the School District is a privilege. Student athletes carry a responsibility to themselves, their fellow student athletes, their parents, and their school to set the highest possible examples of conduct, which includes avoiding the use or possession of illegal drugs or alcohol.
- ii. Drug use of any kind is incompatible with participation in interscholastic athletic activities on behalf of the School District of Palm Beach County (School District). For the safety, health, and well being of the student of the School District, the School Board has adopted the attached Student Athlete Drug and Alcohol Testing Policy, School Board Policy 5.615, and this consent for use by all student athletes in grades 9-12.
- b. Participation in Interscholastic Athletic Activities.-- Each student athlete, or student desiring to become an athlete, shall be provided with a copy of the above drug testing policy and this consent form which shall be read, signed and dated by the student and parent or legal guardian before such student shall be eligible to practice or participate in any interscholastic athletic activities. The consent shall be to provide a urine sample: a) as chosen by a random selection process; or b) at any time requested based upon reasonable suspicion to be tested for illegal or performance-enhancing drugs or alcohol. No student shall be allowed to practice or participate in any athletic activity governed by the policy unless the student has returned the properly signed Student Athlete Drug and Alcohol Testing Consent Form.
- 343 c. Student's Consent.-- I. (print name of student).

344 have read the "Drug and Alcohol Testing of Student Athletes Policy" and the "Student 345 Athlete Drug and Alcohol Testing Consent", and I understand that, out of care for my 346 safety and health and the health and safety of others, the School District enforces its 347 rules applying to the consumption of illegal drugs and alcohol. As a student 348 participating in a school-sponsored interscholastic athletic activity, I realize that the 349 personal decision that I make daily about the use of illegal drugs and/or alcohol may 350 adversely affect my health and well being, possibly endanger those around me, and 351 reflect poorly upon any organization with which I am associated. If I choose to violate 352 the School Board's policy regarding the illegal use of drugs and/or alcohol while I am 353 involved in in-season or off-season athletic activities. I understand upon determination 354 of that violation I will be subject to the consequences restricting my practice and 355 participation as outlined in the Policy. 356 357 Signature of Student Date 358 d. Parental or Guardian Consent .-- I (We) have read and understand the School 359 District's "Drug and Alcohol Testing of Student Athletes Policy" and the "Student 360 Athlete Drug and Alcohol Testing Consent". I (We) desire that the student named 361 above participate in the school-sponsored interscholastic athletic programs of the 362 School District and I (we) hereby voluntarily agree to be subject to its terms. We 363 accept the method of obtaining urine samples, testing and analysis of specimens, and 364 all other aspects of the program. I (we) further agree and consent to the disclosure of 365 the sampling, testing and results as provided for in the Policy 366 367 Signature of Parent /Guardian (Print Name) **Date** 368 369 Signature of Parent/ Guardian (Print Name) Date 370 STATUTORY AUTHORITY: Fla. Stat. §§ 1001.32(2); 1001.41(2); 1001.42(25); and 1001.43(1) 371 LAWS IMPLEMENTED: Fla. Stat. § 1001.43(1)(a); Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act 372 (FERPA), 20 USC 1232 (g); Confidentiality of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Patient Recordings, 42 373 CFR Part 2, §2.1(f)

HISTORY: / 2009

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Legal Signoff:			
The Legal Departme sufficient for develor	ent has reviewed propo oment by the Board.	osed Policy 5.615	and finds it legally
Attorney	 Date		