

Jackson County Schools Bylaws & Policies

5530.01 - STUDENT DRUG TESTING

Statement of Purpose and Intent

The Board of Education, administration, and staff desire that every student in Jackson County Schools refrains from using or possessing illegal drugs. School officials realize that their power to restrict the possession or use of illegal and performance-enhancing drugs is limited. Therefore, this policy governs only performance-enhancing and illegal drug use by middle and high school students participating in certain interscholastic extra-curricular activities, those who wish to drive and park on school property, and those whose parent or guardian elects to include the student in the random student drug testing selection process. The sanctions imposed for violations of this policy, include, but are not limited to, limiting the opportunity of any student determined to be in violation of this policy to a student's privilege to participate in interscholastic extra-curricular activities or drive to school. This policy supplements and complements all other policies, rules, and regulations of Jackson County Schools regarding possession or use of illegal drugs.

Participation in school-sponsored interscholastic extra-curricular activities and permission to drive to school and park on a Jackson County Schools campus is a privilege. Students who participate in interscholastic extra-curricular activities are respected by the student body and are representing the School District and the community. Accordingly, these students carry a responsibility to themselves, their fellow students, their parents and their school to set the highest possible examples of conduct, sportsmanship, and training, which includes avoiding the use or possession of illegal drugs. Students who elect to drive a privately owned vehicle to and from school and park on school property also carry an added accountability for the safe operation of a vehicle while on school property.

The purposes of this policy are six-fold:

- A. To educate students on the serious physical, mental, and emotional harm caused by illegal drug use.
- B. To alert students with possible substance abuse problems, and their parent/guardian, of the potential harms that drug use poses for their physical, mental and emotional well-being and offer them the privilege of competition as an incentive to stop using such substances.
- C. To ensure that students adhere to a training program that bars the intake of illegal and performance-enhancing drugs.
- D. To prevent injury, illness, and harm to students that may arise as a result of using illegal and performance-enhancing drugs.
- E. To offer students practices, competition and school activities free of the effects of illegal and performance-enhancing drug use.
- F. To assure the safe operation of student-driven vehicles on campus.

Illegal and performance-enhancing drug use of any kind is not compatible with the physical, mental, and emotional demands placed upon participants in interscholastic extra-curricular activities and upon the positive