

HSCIN Survey Results on Random Drug Testing – January 27 through February 8, 2007

67 Responses

Average completion time was 2 minutes

Are you aware of the current random drug testing policy for students who participate in athletic activities?

Yes 89.55%
No 10.45%

Are you confident that the current drug testing policy is being fairly and consistently implemented among student athletes?

Yes 38.81%
No 61.19%

Are you in favor of implementing random drug testing for students who want to hold parking permits at the high schools?

Yes 67.16%
No 32.84%

Comments?

Why are we testing if they want to park. I believe the police are already able to search a car on the high school campus. Why do we need to drug test the kids? Question - how many drug related problems are we having? Do we have so many that we need this? If so - then why are there no drug reports in the paper? I do not agree that we should randomly test students who want to drive to school.

This is a harsh step on the rights of the innocent children that have not broken any rules what so ever. this has been caused by a few of the children that really do not care about their selves enough to realize what this will lead to in life.

How will this change anything? If they do test positive, take away their driving pass, they ride with a friend, did that really stop the student from taking the drugs etc? Statistically - does this work? How many students drive? How many do they intend to test? Random - what are the odds they will test the ones high that day. Next question - the kids know who the drug users are, when they are using....why not have a way for students to let the administration know? What will they do if someone does tell them? What does the law actually say school administration can do?

The research indicates that random drug testing is only a deterrent if it is done extremely frequently so that students believe there is a extremely good chance they will be tested. Personally, I believe it does not belong on the schools. Additionally, parents ought to do their job of parenting and not rely on the school to do this.

[My concern is] that it is truly random.

I think if the Hoover School Policy states that there will be random drug testing to make sure that students are abiding by the drug free policy - there should not be an issue with any student taking a random drug test. I do think that if a student requests that their parent be present, it should not be an issue since they are under 18.

Students shouldn't do drugs anywhere near a school. If they are athletes they should never do drugs. People look up to them and want to be like them.

[My concern is that] special privileges are given to football players

"none" (given 3 times)

The process for randomly selecting students, testing and maintaining the chain of custody for the results.

Punishment depends on administrator and who student is. At times punishment is punitive. The code of conduct gives the administrators too much power and the student not rights.

As presently defined, tobacco is an illegal drug. I question that definition.

Redefine the catch all "drug" terminology to exclude tobacco.

Consequences should be much harsher

None....All students should be drug tested!

I think that random drug testing should not be limited to athletes and students that hold parking permits. I believe that all students should be subject to random drug testing.

I think alcohol use is a greater concern than drug use, and I would like to see us use the test that the NJ school is using that detects alcohol use as well. I would also like a larger population tested. Frequent testing would be good too, maybe some students tested each week.

More testing, not less, should be done. Parking on school property has always been a privilege, not a right, as is playing sports. I have no problem with my kids being randomly selected.

Since the only drug that stays in your system for a significant amount of time is THC, I feel that drug testing is nothing but a waste of money. Opiates, alcohol, etc is washed through the system within a day or so. If you're going to test athletes randomly, you should also test band members, choir members, cheerleaders, any student doing any extra activities, and ALL teachers/coaches.

Random and parking permits sounds like an oxymoron. Random would be by chance; parking permits are for all. Is drug testing for ALL students?

Why just student-athletes?

I couldn't really answer the last two questions. It sounds like a good idea -- various employers drug test -- but I need more info. what other schools do this? Has it helped? What is procedure when positive result is found?

it is invasion of privacy, and that drug test are not 100 percent right.

I think it is a great idea! My concern is that is not RANDOM! My child is a senior at Spain Park. She has been tested every year since she was in 7th grade at Berry, sometimes twice a year. I don't think it is random when there are some students who have never been tested!! It makes one question if someone is hand-selecting the students they know will pass the test.

Civil liberties, invasion of privacy, abuse of power, not fair to students who are innocent, etc. BAD IDEA. We are trying to move to Vestavia.

I feel that random drug testing is necessary because [of] the drug use/activity I hear about at HHS

I think the idea of implementing random drug testing is something with well intentions, but it will not have the effect that its supporters desire. I think ultimately rather than eliminating the drug problem, which is what people are hoping for, it will only cause students who desire to get that high or buzz to shift to substances that cannot currently be detected by conventional methods. It will definitely result in fewer young people using marijuana, but it will also result in more young people abusing over the counter prescriptions and other compounds that can be made from medicines that are legal to purchase. Random drug testing does nothing to address the underlying issues which cause young people to turn to drugs in the first place. It does nothing to help students who are struggling with depression, anxiety, living in broken homes, feeling socially isolated or not fitting in, and other social and personal issues. If a student is miserable and does not want to come to school, they will continue to be miserable even without using substances. I think it is entirely possible that this policy might cause students who are already struggling in school and with substances to drop out of school so that there is no risk of them having something something on their record that can haunt them throughout life. I personally think that testing should only be warranted if the teachers, coaches, and parents suspect a drug problem, and the results of the test should not go on the student's permanent record.

As long as it is done fairly, no one should complain. Of course, the parents of kids testing dirty will complain that it wasn't done fairly!