

BREATHALYZER TESTING

In order to safeguard the individual and general welfare of all students, RSU 1 may administer a breathalyzer test as a condition of admission to school or school-related activity to any student or his/her guests. It may also administer such a test at any time during the school day or activity. Students will be notified of this policy through the student handbook as well as open assembly for all students. Parents will be notified through school newsletter.

Breathalyzer Testing

Students exhibiting signs of having consumed alcohol, including, but not limited to glassy eyes, slurred speech, unsteadiness on the feet or emission of an alcoholic odor may be requested to take a breathalyzer test administered by a school administrator. If test results are negative, no action shall be taken, although subsequent administrations of the breathalyzer test may be given at any time. If a student tests positive for alcohol, he or she will receive one additional opportunity to take the test. Students who test positive for alcohol (a .02 reading on the breathalyzer test) or students who refuse to take a Breathalyzer test upon reasonable suspicion to suspect they have consumed alcohol will be subject to all school rules relating to the use and/or possession of alcohol.

Protocol for Use of Breathalyzer

1. The Breathalyzer can be used during the school day and at all school-sponsored activities including but not limited to: dances, proms or other extracurricular activities.
2. The Breathalyzer is administered to any student who is suspected of being under the influence of alcohol using the approved checklist.
3. The Breathalyzer will be administered by a school administrator only. Any administrator who administers the Breathalyzer must have been previously trained. Appropriate training in the use of the Breathalyzer will be arranged by the school nurse and will meet standards of practice for such training.
4. There will always be two people present when the observation checklist is completed and the Breathalyzer is administered (either another school administrator, law enforcement officer or a teacher).
5. The Breathalyzer will be administered in a private area, away from other students.
6. The student will have two opportunities to take the Breathalyzer. The initial test may be administered at any time. A second test will be conducted fifteen minutes after the first test has been administered. The results of the Breathalyzer test(s) will be documented and attached to the observation checklist.
7. If a student does not pass the Breathalyzer, his/her parents will be notified and must come to pick them up. If a parent/guardian cannot be reached the student will be placed in protective custody by the local police department until a parent/guardian can pick up the student. The local police will be notified if the student is still in possession of alcohol.
8. Students who test positive for alcohol or refuse to take the Breathalyzer test upon determination that there is reasonable cause to suspect that they have consumed alcohol will be subject to all school rules and policies relating to the use and/or possession of alcohol.

Adopted: February 11, 2008

PROTOCOL FOR BREATHALYZER TESTING

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Protocol for the Use of the Breathalyzer

Alcohol Observation Checklist

Observation of Student

Name: _____ Date: _____ Time: _____ Event/Location: _____

Check all that apply:

1. Walking

normal stumbling staggering falling unsteady

2. Speech

normal shouting slurred incoherent whispering

3. Demeanor

normal sleepy crying fighting overexcited
 agitated

4. Eyes

normal bloodshot glassy watery dilated

5. Personal Conduct

normal profanity hostile erratic

6. Breath

normal alcoholic odor faint alcoholic odor

7. **Other Observations:**

Questions:

Are you feeling ill? Yes No If yes, please describe _____

Are you taking any medication? Yes No

If yes, would care to tell us what it is? _____

Have you consumed alcohol today? Yes No How did you get here? _____

Disposition/conclusion: _____

Next action: _____

Contact parents: Yes No Breathalyzer test results attached: Yes No

Staff member's name: _____ Witness: _____

School Sponsored Event

Each student entering a school-sponsored activity may be required to submit to a breathalyzer test as a condition of admission. This is a passive, non-invasive test where no mouthpiece is needed. Students will be asked to speak or breathe into the flashlight-like device.

1. *The administration will determine at which school-sponsored events the breathalyzer test procedures will be used. These events will include, but are not limited to, proms, dances, concerts, overnight activities, optional field trips, athletic events, etc.*
2. *The administration will determine the manner by which the students will be tested. The trained administrator or trained staff member present at such events has the authority to test and retest any individual suspected of being under the influence of alcohol even if the student has a negative test upon entering the event.*
3. *Students attending these school sponsored events may be required to take a breathalyzer test administered by a trained member of the staff or administration prior to entering the event.*
 - a. *Any student who tests positive will be given a second test after a waiting period of fifteen (15) minutes;*
 - b. *If this test is also positive, the student will be denied entrance to the event, detained by school officials until parents/guardians arrive and an investigation is conducted. The student will be sent home and, subject to disciplinary procedures, will be suspended.*
 - c. *Students who refuse the test will be denied entrance to the event and detained until parents/guardians arrive to remove them. In such cases, subject to disciplinary procedures, the student will be suspended.*
 - d. *A student who tests positive or refuses to be tested may be prohibited from participating in future extra-curricular activities*
4. *A student already in attendance at a school-sponsored event who is suspected of being under the influence will be tested or retested.*
 - a. *If this test is positive, the student will be detained until parents/guardians arrive and, subject to disciplinary procedures, will be suspended.*
 - b. *If a student, already in attendance, who is suspected of using alcohol as described herein refuses the test, that student will be detained and sent home with a parent/guardian and, subject to disciplinary procedures, will be suspended.*
 - c. *A student who tests positive or refuses to be tested may be prohibited from participating in future extra-curricular activities*
5. *The Breathalyzer Protocol shall apply to all students and guests, regardless of age.*

Adopted: February 11, 2008