

STUDENT ALCOHOL TESTING
(BREATHALYZER)

The consumption of alcohol by students during school hours, as well as prior to or during school-sponsored activities and events, and the presence of students who have consumed alcohol at any time during school-sponsored, off-campus activities and events, is strictly prohibited.

The Board of Education recognizes that the use of alcohol by minors represents a serious threat to the welfare of students.

The possession, transportation, and distribution of alcoholic beverages during school hours or during school-sponsored activities and events, including extracurricular, co-curricular or sports activities, whether on or off school grounds, is strictly prohibited.

The consumption of alcohol by students during school hours, as well as prior to or during school sponsored activities and events, including, extracurricular, co-curricular or sports activities and the presence of students who have consumed alcohol on school campus at any time or during school sponsored, off-campus activities and events, is strictly prohibited.

Therefore, to promote a safe, healthy, and productive environment, the District implements the following testing policy with respect to students suspected of consumption of alcohol.

- a) School personnel who have a reasonable suspicion that a particular student has consumed alcohol prior to or during school hours or during a school-sponsored event may recommend to the administrator in charge the use of breathalyzer testing to determine such consumption. Reasonable suspicion shall be based on objective criteria including, but not limited to, admissions, reliable statements of others, possession of alcohol, impairment of motor control and other outward signs of alcohol use or intoxication such as flushed face, red or watery eyes, odor of alcohol on breath or clothing, slurred speech, failure to comprehend questions, being combative, lack of awareness in regard to time and place, and vomiting.
- b) The District shall maintain an appropriately calibrated and reliable breathalyzer testing device and shall provide for training of school officials in its use so that it may be properly administered. The term, trained "school official," shall be limited, to nurses, administrators, and drug and alcohol school professionals.
- c) A student present during an on or off campus school sponsored event, including, extracurricular, co-curricular or sports activities who is believed to have consumed alcohol prior to or during the event, will be discretely escorted by two school officials to a secure location unless circumstances

dictate that only one school official is available. The test shall then be administered by a trained school official. The student will be granted an opportunity to explain a positive test result. After due consideration of the student's explanation, the school official shall make an immediate determination whether to exclude the student from the event. If alcohol use has been determined, the student's parents, person in parental relation, or legal guardian shall be immediately notified. Students identified as having consumed alcohol shall be detained under observation until a parent, a person designated by the parent, or a person named as the student's emergency contact is available to transport the student home. If none of the aforementioned individuals are available, the staff member in charge of the activity will determine who will transport the child home. The student's behavior shall be referred to the School Principal and/or Superintendent of Schools for further action pursuant to Section 3214 of the Education Law. Test results shall be considered in making a determination whether to proceed further.

- d) In the event that a student refuses the administration of a breathalyzer test in any of the circumstances described in a) or c) above, he/she will be presumed to have consumed alcohol. The matter shall be processed under paragraphs c) in the same manner as if a positive breathalyzer test result had been obtained.

As noted above, possession, transportation, and distribution of alcoholic beverages during school hours, on school property, or during school-sponsored activities or events is strictly prohibited. Any student determined to have possessed, transported, or distributed alcoholic beverages during school hours, or during school-sponsored activities and events both on or off school premise shall be subject to immediate suspension and further discipline as provided in Section 3214 of the Education Law of the State of New York.

Adoption date: July 2, 2013