

## Substance Abuse Testing Policy

It is the policy of Vermilion Catholic High School to take all precautions necessary to ensure that students will be accorded every reasonable health and safety measure. Since the mid to late 1980's, discipline problems have accelerated, athletes have suffered increased injuries, and school officials have noticed that students and athletes have begun to glorify the drug culture. Vermilion Catholic High School intends to ensure the optimum health and safety for our students through a substance abuse testing program.

The purpose of this program is not to invade the privacy of the student, but rather to bring to the surface a potential health and safety problem. This would include any controlled substance dependency or usage of illegal substances that would be counter-productive to the health and safety of our students. This policy was formed to detect and **DETER** substances of abuse and thus ensure the safety of all students in our school.

All members and employees of Vermilion Catholic High School, faculty, administration, auxiliary staff, school board members and students will be subject to periodic drug screen testing. Each student will undergo one or more urine analyses to ascertain the presence of controlled substances. The tests will be strictly enforced, and participation will be mandatory since the parent/guardian has freely chosen to allow his/her child to attend Vermilion Catholic. By signing the "Substance Abuse/Misuse Contract and Consent Form", the parent/guardian and student acknowledge that they have consented to the administration of the tests and waive any claim of invasion of privacy and any objection to the furtherance of this program. The refusal of a student to submit to a requested search or a drug screen will result in the student's dismissal from Vermilion Catholic.

Initial testing is paid for by Vermilion Catholic High School and conducted in accordance with recommendations made by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) of the United States Department of Health and Human Services. A drug test screen will be collected using the established protocols and submitted for processing. According to SAMHSA standards, two tests will be performed on the specimen. The test will be used to detect the following: **AMPHETAMINES, BARBITURATES, BENZOYLECGONINE-COCAINE, BENZODIAZEPINES, ETHANOL, METHADONE, OPIATES, PHENCYCLIDINE (PCP), PROPOXYPHENE, AND MARIJUANA.** The confirmation test is performed using Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry, the recommended method of courts and scientists.

The results of the tests will be kept strictly confidential in the principal's office, and the student will be allowed to indicate if he or she has been taking any prescription medication prior to the test. The parent/guardian of a student who yields a positive test result will be notified within 24 hours of the Laboratory results being recovered. A meeting time will be setup for a conference between Principal, Parent/Guardian, and student to discuss the findings.

Routine urinalysis drug testing will take place during the school year. Any student who tests positive for the first time will be called into a parent/principal meeting and will be suspended for three days. A retest will be conducted 35 days from notification of a positive test at the parents' expense. Any student who has a second positive test will be dismissed from Vermilion Catholic.

It is imperative to note that these procedures are only to be used for the appearance of non-apparent controlled substances. Consequently, if a student apprehended by anyone as a result of being in illegal possession of alcohol and/or a controlled substance, the regular school disciplinary policies will apply.

**(SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR ADDITIONAL POLICY)**

## **Policy on Drug Detection**

All members and employees of Vermilion Catholic High School, faculty, administration, auxiliary staff, school board members and students will be subject to periodic searches. Entry into or upon any school vehicle, offices, grounds or facilities of the school by any persons is conditioned upon the school's right to search the person, personal effects and vehicles of any entrant for illicit or controlled drugs, drug-related paraphernalia, intoxicating beverages, firearms or weapons, or possession of unauthorized property or equipment.

Searches may include the person, personal effects, lockers, desks, offices, vehicles or any vehicle being used for school purposes, personal baggage or any other item on school premises. Contraband items shall be taken into custody. When such a search finds a person subject to these policies to be in possession of a contraband item, that person shall be considered in violation of these policies. Parents and the police will be notified.

Any student subject to these policies who has been determined to use, possess or sell or distribute illegal drugs, drug related paraphernalia, controlled substances, intoxicating beverages, on or off campus, or to be in possession of firearms or weapons on campus, or to have possessed prescribed drugs of another person, or who possessed any drug that is not properly identified or in a proper container, or who possessed "Look-Alike" or "Designer" drugs shall be subject to disciplinary action.

The principal is further authorized to solicit and provide for periodic use of trained animals in the search for or detection of illicit drugs. In the event that such animal should detect or indicate the presence of such substances, then the principal (or designate) shall be authorized to demand all students in the area of the detection to display or otherwise exhibit the contents of the affected area.

Use of the parking facilities provided by the school and exercise of the privilege of parking on the premises by the students constitutes an implied consent to have said automobile periodically and reasonably searched or inspected for the purpose of detecting the presence of drugs or other unauthorized material.

The above policies shall likewise apply to any function (social, educational, or other) held upon the grounds of the school and sponsored by the school or any student organization.

**(SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR ADDITIONAL POLICY)**