

A. Mandatory Drug Testing Policy

As part of our mission, we believe it is important to help our students make positive, healthy choices. We believe prevention is the best goal set in attaining that mission. This program is just one part of the larger Opt4life program which will empower our students and their parents to continue to make smart choices throughout their student's high school career. The mandatory drug testing program will give our students a reason to say no to drugs and to help lead them towards healthy life choices.

At the beginning of the school year, parents are asked to sign a parental/student contract (see page 3 of the handbook) that demonstrates the parents' knowledge and acceptance of all school policies. As part of this agreement, parents will sign allowing their child to "opt for" the drug testing program. A parent of an incoming freshman can request to "opt out" of the drug testing program, requesting a mandatory meeting with the principal, Mr. Tucker. Any parent who is requesting an "opt out" must call Principal Larry Tucker at 773.881.5349 prior to September 9, 2016 to set up a meeting. The handbook contracts will be collected during the first week of school; following their collection, drug testing will begin.

During the fall semester, all students will be tested. Selection will be made by a software program which will assign each student a random number. A list will be posted each morning outside the cafeteria. The test will be administered in the Athletic Office Conference Room during the lunch periods. The drug test will analyze hair follicles for marijuana, cocaine, ecstasy, prescription drugs and heroin. Samples will be tested by Omega Corporation. If a student refuses to be tested, that student will receive an out of school suspension until the student agrees to be tested.

A third party affiliated with Marist will receive the confidential results. A negative test outcome will result in a congratulatory letter being sent home to the parents and student. A positive test outcome will result in a contact by the third party who will offer information and resources to the family. The student will be required to be retested in 100 days. If a student tests positive a second time, the matter will be referred by the third party to Mr. Tucker. A confidential meeting will then be held with Mr. Tucker, the student and the parents. The student will be required to complete a substance abuse assessment through Rosecrance. Mr. Tucker will notify Rosecrance immediately of the positive test. The student will be required to contact Rosecrance within three days to set up an appointment for an assessment within one week's time. Additionally, the student and their parent/guardian will be required to sign a waiver which will allow Mr. Tucker to speak to Rosecrance regarding the results of the assessment and recommended follow-up. This recommendation may include but is not limited to: prevention classes, individual counseling, intensive outpatient therapy and inpatient therapy. The results of the drug testing will NOT be part of the student's disciplinary or academic file at Marist High School and will be destroyed when the student leaves Marist High School. If the recommendation calls for treatment and the student does not comply with the treatment, the student's report card will not be released to the student. A Senior who does not comply with treatment will have his/her report card and diploma withheld and may lose all Senior privileges.

During the spring semester, one third of the student body will be randomly selected for a second drug test. The same procedures will apply for the spring testing as those in effect for the drug testing in the fall. As has been the ongoing policy of Marist High School, any student who is suspected of illegal substance use can be reported to the Principal or Dean of Students, and may be tested outside of this mandatory drug testing program.