



Board of Education
1824 Harris Road
Sheffield, OH 44054
PH: 440-949-6181
Fax: 440-949-4204
www.sheffieldschools.org

Brookside High School
1662 Harris Road
Sheffield, OH 44054
PH: 440-949-4220

Brookside Middle School
1662 Harris Road
Sheffield, OH 44054
PH: 440-949-4228

Brookside Intermediate School
1812 Harris Road
Sheffield, OH 44054
PH: 440-949-4237

Forestlawn Elementary
3975 Forestlawn Avenue
Sheffield Lake, OH 44054
PH: 440-949-4238

Knollwood Elementary
4975 Oster Road
Sheffield, OH 44054
PH: 440-949-4234

Student Drug Testing – Question/Answer Forum

September 8, 2015

Dear Parents/Guardians of Brookside High School,

Drug use among high school students is a major concern for parents, community members, and educators. The use of illegal substances can lead to harmful and even disastrous results for everyone involved. It is, therefore, important to empower students and parents to avoid the pitfalls associated with drug abuse. To achieve this goal, Brookside High School is asking the Sheffield-Sheffield Lake City Schools Board of Education to implement a Random Student Drug Testing program for high school students. This program is consistent with those at neighboring school districts, as well as others within Lorain, Cuyahoga, and Erie Counties.

The goal of the Random Drug Testing Program is to partner with parents to help our students combat and win the fight against drug use. If we can delay the onset of drug use or diminish the frequency, we reduce the risk of addiction for that student.

Purpose of the Student Drug Testing Policy is:

- A. Provide for health, safety, and general well-being of students;
- B. Undermine the effects of peer pressure by providing legitimate reasons for students to refuse to use drugs, tobacco, or alcohol;
- C. Encourage students who use or abuse drugs to participate in drug treatment programs; and
- D. Prevent the impact drug and alcohol use has on the learning center of the brain, allowing students to achieve their full academic potential while attending Sheffield-Sheffield Lake City Schools.

How does the program work?

Brookside High School students who participate in extra-curricular activities will be required to participate in the student drug testing program. With required parent signature, students who participate will, on a random basis, be selected to undergo a urine drug test. The tests will be administered on campus during the school day in a private location by an outside agency, Great

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Lakes Biomedical. All tests will be conducted by trained professionals. Information regarding the test results is confidential. The focus of this program is prevention, not punishment.

- Students will be picked randomly by Great Lakes Biomedical to be tested.
- All tests will be initially screened and any non-negative tests will be sent to a certified laboratory for confirmation.
- The certified laboratory will provide confirmation of the test to a Certified Medical Review Officer.
- The Certified Medical Review Officer will determine if there are any medications, etc. that would be affecting the test.
- The Certified Medical Review Officer will then inform the designated school representative (School Social Worker) of any positive results.
- The School Social Worker will serve as liaison/point of contact between the school district and students/parents.

In effort to provide more information, community presentations and question/answer sessions will be held:

Date: Wednesday, September 16, 2015
Time: 6:30 PM
Location: Brookside High School Cafeteria

Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2015
Time: 6:30 PM
Location: Brookside High School Cafeteria

These sessions are voluntary and are designed to highlight the program, procedures, privacy, and answer questions. The sessions are scheduled on separate days to provide more availability for parents.

The district policy regarding Student Drug Testing can be found under the webpages for the Sheffield-Sheffield Lake City Schools and/or Brookside High School at www.sheffieldschools.org

Thank you for your anticipated support.

Sincerely,



Michael Cook, Superintendent
Sheffield-Sheffield Lake City Schools



Brent Schremp, Principal
Brookside High School