

Breathalyzer Policy

The Chariho Regional School District is committed to eliminating the use of alcohol by students who are involved in school-related activities. Alcohol use by students is illegal and poses a serious threat to both the student and other members of the school community. Therefore, any student for whom there is a reasonable suspicion of the use of alcohol before or during the school day, prior to or during school-sponsored activities, or on *school property, may be asked to submit to a breathalyzer test.

The following guidelines shall apply:

1. A student about whom there is a reasonable suspicion of consumption of alcohol may be asked to submit to a breathalyzer test. Indicators of reasonable suspicion may include, but are not limited to, odor of an alcoholic beverage, slurred speech, unsteady gait, lack of coordination, presence in the vicinity of an alcohol beverage container or container with an alcoholic beverage, bloodshot or glazed eyes, or such other information as is reasonable to raise suspicion. No breathalyzer test will be administered if a student acknowledges consumption of alcohol.
2. If a student is administered a breathalyzer test for the presence of alcohol and passes but is clearly impaired, as they may be under the influence of drugs, the police will be contacted for further investigation.
3. Breathalyzer tests shall be administered in a secure location away from other students by the principal, assistant principal or other designee who has been fully trained in breathalyzer test administration. When police, trained and qualified in breathalyzer test administration are present, these matters shall be referred to law enforcement personnel for disposition including the administration of the breathalyzer.
4. Parents will be called following the administration of a breathalyzer test. If a student tests positive, parents must transport the student home; if a parent is not available to transport a student, local police will be called. Emergency medical personnel will be sought if the student is assessed to be in need of medical assistance. Students determined to have consumed alcohol will be subject to disciplinary consequences as detailed in the Standards for Student Behavior and Athletic Handbook, which shall include police notification.
5. There will be no random testing of students.
6. Refusal to submit to a breathalyzer test will be considered an act of insubordination and will be considered along with other evidence to determine whether or not a student has consumed alcohol.
7. A written report shall be filed with the Superintendent of Schools within twenty-four (24) hours of the administration of this policy.

*For purposes of this policy, school property shall include, but is not limited to, school grounds, buildings, buses, gymnasiums, facilities rented by the District, and other facilities or premises utilized for school-sponsored activities and/or events.

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