

## ***Saint Bernard Preparatory School Drug Prevention Program***

Saint Bernard Preparatory School students represent their school and are expected to possess and to exhibit the highest moral principles. These expectations are to be met at all times, *on or off campus*, and especially when a student is under the jurisdiction or responsibility of the school, or representing the school formally or informally. Saint Bernard Preparatory School will not tolerate the use or abuse of illegal drugs by faculty, staff, or students. Therefore, the sale, distribution, possession or use of illegal drugs or drug paraphernalia are forbidden. Understood in this category are any controlled drugs that have not been prescribed for the student by a doctor approved by the student's parents and the school administration.

The use and/or possession of illegal drugs and drug paraphernalia by a Saint Bernard student on school property, at any school event, or while under the supervision of the School, or representing the School formally or informally is strictly forbidden and will result in immediate expulsion. The administration of Saint Bernard Preparatory School reserves the right to search a student and his/her personal belongings, dorm room and contents, locker, vehicle and contents thereof.

The school reserves the right to mandate the testing of all students randomly, or for probable cause, for use of illegal drugs. The test procedure, time, and administering agency will be chosen by Saint Bernard Preparatory School. The results of testing will be absolutely confidential, known only to the Headmaster and/or Assistant Headmaster of the school, the student and parents involved, and the testing agency.

The administration will determine when there is Probable Cause/Reasonable Suspicion to investigate the abuse, distribution, and/or sale of drugs. If there is probable cause to suspect that illegal drugs are used by a student, the school reserves the right to require reliable testing procedures. Reasonable suspicion shall be based upon specific objective facts and reasonable inferences drawn from those facts in light of experience. While it is not possible to list every factor that might lead to testing, those listed below are some of the most common:

- Physical symptoms or manifestations of impairment due to substance abuse, such as reddened eyes or dilated pupils or unexplained significant weight loss or gain;
- A report of substance abuse provided by a reliable and credible source;
- Evidence that a student has tampered with any substance abuse test under this program;
- Excessive unexcused absences or tardiness;
- Unexplained absences from classes;
- Significant deterioration in grades or in performance in school athletics;
- Significant changes in personality (such as mood swings, euphoria, depression, abusive behavior, violence, insolence, insubordination);
- Changes in personal hygiene or demeanor;
- Odor of alcohol or controlled substance;
- Evidence of alcohol use on campus or at a school-sponsored event;
- Any other good and just cause.

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Since 2001, student fees have included an amount to be used for the School's substance abuse education program and for random drug testing of the student body. The cost of any testing subsequent to an initial positive test will be charged to the family. Depending on the procedure, the cost for a retest may be in excess of \$100.00. A student may be withdrawn by his or her family rather than take a drug test, but refusal to take a drug test precludes continued enrollment at Saint Bernard Preparatory School.

All students are subject to random testing throughout the school year. On a periodic basis and without prior notice, students may be selected to submit to drug testing. Since the selection is random, some students may be selected several times for testing during the school year and others may not be tested at all. Prior negative test results of a student do not exempt a student from additional testing.

Since Saint Bernard Preparatory School understands that people make mistakes, a first time positive result on a drug test will not result in expulsion unless extenuating circumstances make such an action necessary. However, a student must strictly adhere to the following procedures, in order to remain a member of the student body:

- The student must submit to an evaluation of his/her drug use by a professional counselor, who will report findings to the Headmaster within two weeks of the school's notification to the student's parents or legal guardians.
- The student must complete any counseling required by the evaluation. Written verification of the student's participation and completion of the counseling is required for him/her to continue his/her education at Saint Bernard. The school must receive a report from the counselor or counseling director during the time that services are provided to the student.
- Within 90 days from the date of the first test, Saint Bernard will require at least one follow-up drug test of the student, using a testing agency and procedure chosen by the school.
- A second positive test during a student's tenure at St. Bernard Prep will result in permanent dismissal from the school if the student's parents choose not to withdraw.
- In order to remain at Saint Bernard Preparatory School, the student must follow the recommendations of the evaluation outlined by the counselor and must continue to be drug-free.

Compliance with the above stipulations is a condition of continued enrollment at Saint Bernard Preparatory School. A violation of any provision of this program, a failure or refusal to cooperate or participate fully in this program, a failure or refusal to sign any required document or to submit to a test or search, or a false answer or willful omission, will result in permanent dismissal of students and rejection of applicants. Strict insistence on the above program is based on Saint Bernard's primary concern to help students make good decisions. The school hopes that the required evaluation, counseling, and re-testing will enable students to become and remain drug-free throughout their high school years and beyond.