

Dear Plainwell High School Parent:

As part of our overall effort to reduce drug usage among teens, Plainwell Community Schools Board of Education will be voting on a formalized random drug testing program. As you are aware, we have seen an increase in the amount of student drug use, which has contributed to an increase in trauma, mental health, and other problems seen throughout the school. Although, Plainwell is no different than any other high school in the nation, we strongly feel that we need to be proactive in helping our students to make better decisions. We are committed to creating a fair and equitable system for our students at a small overall cost to the district.

The goals of our random drug testing program are to:

- 1) Deter drug use among students
- 2) Motivate students to resist peer pressure
- 3) Identify students participating in extracurricular activities that are using drugs
- 4) Help reduce the stigma of “everybody does it”
- 5) Provide education and an opportunity for students to help quit using/abusing drugs
- 6) Make PHS a leader in the area for drug prevention
- 7) Partner with parents and provide tools and supports for students to be drug free

Students that would be subjected to participate in the random drug testing program include for Phase 1:

- 1) Interscholastic Athletics - 9th, JV, and Varsity Levels
- 2) Voluntary Extracurricular or Co-curricular Activities

Participation in the program is mandatory for any student participating in the above activities. There is no opt-out. Each trimester, at a time and date established by the principal, approximately 10% of the eligible student population (male/female) would be selected by random number generation for a random drug test per season. A minimum of one test will be conducted each season. The drug test would be administered by our athletic trainer (test coordinator) in a secure, private facility. Upon failing a drug test, student athletes would be subjected to the sanctions as outlined in the athletic handbook. Students will not be punished academically and will remain a member of the team or club. However, any student that displayed positive results would be eligible to return early provided they received counseling and/or treatment from a licensed counselor at the parent’s expense.

For more information on the PHS Drug Testing Program, please visit:

<http://www.plainwellschools.org/2/Content/drugtesting>

Sincerely,



Jeremy Wright
Principal Plainwell High School