

BREATHALYZER TESTING

Hull Public Schools is committed to the promotion of healthful living and to the safety and well-being of its students, faculty and greater community, including but not limited to its best efforts at alcohol education and persuading students to say no to alcohol. In order to ensure a safe environment for all students, faculty and the community-at-large, the Hull School Committee authorizes the Hull High School Principal, or properly trained staff delegated by the Principal, to administer Breathalyzer tests to students and their guests while on school property or at a school-sponsored event, regardless of whether the event is held on or off school grounds.

The primary goals of utilizing a Breathalyzer are (1) to deter students and their guests from engaging in illegal and/or unpermitted alcohol consumption that could potentially result in harmful or even fatal consequences to students or others, (2) to prevent intoxicated students from harming themselves or others.

Breathalyzer testing may be used, at staff discretion, when a staff member has reasonable suspicion (grounds for reasonable suspicion shall include but not be limited to glassy eyes, slurred speech, unsteadiness on feet, atypical demeanor/behavior, alcohol odor, etc.) to believe that a student or guest may be under the influence of alcohol upon attempting to enter school property or a school-sponsored event, or during a school or school-sponsored event. Upon initial testing of a student or guest reasonably believed to possibly be under the influence of alcohol, the student or guest will be escorted to a private location as is reasonably practicable given the event location for Breathalyzer testing in accordance with standard testing protocols. A minimum of two (2) tests shall be performed on each individual tested with all results recorded.

If it is determined via Breathalyzer testing that a student and/or a student's guest is under the influence of alcohol, the student's and/or guest's parent or guardian will be notified and asked to transport the student and/or guest home to ensure safety. If it is determined that a student is under the influence of alcohol, the student will also be subject to discipline in accordance with the Hull Public Schools drug, alcohol and discipline policies. A student may also be required to participate in a drug/alcohol awareness program. Any student or guest who refuses a Breathalyzer test when asked by staff to submit to testing will be considered to have been using alcohol and be treated in the same manner as a student or guest testing positive for alcohol consumption. In the event that the Principal or a designee is unable to contact the student's or guest's parent or guardian at the time of the incident, emergency personnel will be contacted to transport the student or guest as needed for his or her own safety.

For each incident, staff shall write a separate, brief written report indicating the date, time, and location of the event, as well as the name of any student or guests suspected of using alcohol and specific reasons for suspecting the individuals of using alcohol. Staff shall also record on each incident report the Breathalyzer results, the name of the individual(s) conducting the testing, the means and result of parent/guardian notification or attempted notification, and the circumstances of student removal/transportation from the event.

Staff shall ensure that the individual administering a Breathalyzer test has been properly trained and designated to administer the test and that all equipment is functioning correctly prior to each event for which it may be used.

Students or guests who test positive for alcohol, or refuse to take the Breathalyzer test upon determination that there is reasonable cause to suspect that they have consumed alcohol will be subject to discipline according to the code of conduct for their school and subject to co-curricular and social consequences for Chemical Health Violations.

Adoption: September 19, 2016

First reading:

Second reading:

Proposed reconsideration:

Hull Public Schools