

# POLICY ————— PEQUANNOCK TOWNSHIP

## BOARD OF EDUCATION

STUDENTS

5535 / PAGE 1 OF 3

### 5535– PASSIVE BREATH ALCOHOL SENSOR DEVICE

The Board of Education recognizes a student's abuse of harmful substances seriously impedes a student's education and threatens the welfare of the entire school community. The Board is committed to the prevention of substance abuse and the rehabilitation of substance abusers by educational means, but will take additional necessary and appropriate steps to protect the school community from harm and from exposure to harmful substances.

In keeping with its commitment to protect all students and the school community from the harm of alcohol use, the Board of Education authorizes the use of a passive breath alcohol sensor device (PBASD) in certain circumstances. A PBASD enables school district staff to check an approximate alcohol level quickly and efficiently without requiring the student's active participation. A PBASD may be used in certain circumstances as defined in this Policy and as determined by the Principal or designee or the staff member(s) in charge of a school related or school sponsored event or activity. The purpose for using a PBASD is to protect students who may be under the influence of alcohol, other students, staff, and community members attending such events and to deter the use of alcohol by students.

The Board authorizes PBASD screening before, during, and after school activities/events including, but not limited to: dances, athletic events, proms, class trips, drama productions, graduation ceremonies, or school assemblies when the Principal or designee has reason to believe the use of alcohol by students may be present. When it is determined a PBASD will be used, a random number sequence will be selected by the Principal or designee prior to the event to determine which students in line for entrance will be screened. For example, if the number five is selected every fifth student in line for entrance into the activity/event shall be screened. In the alternative, the Principal or designee may determine to screen every student in line for entrance into the activity/event.

Written notice indicating the use of a PBASD will be displayed at the point of sale of a ticket for the activity/event or at the entrance of the activity/event if tickets are not required. Upon the purchase of a ticket to gain entry into an activity/event or upon the entry of a student into an activity/event that does not require the purchase of a ticket, a student shall be considered under the supervision of school district and shall be subject to the provisions of this Policy.

If the PBASD screening indicates the presence of alcohol on a student, additional PBASD screenings will be conducted. If additional PBASD screenings confirm the presence of alcohol on a student, the matter shall be reported to the Principal or designee and the certified or noncertified school nurse, or the school physician according to the reporting, notification, and examination requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:40A-12, N.J.A.C. 6A:16-4.3, and

# POLICY ————— PEQUANNOCK TOWNSHIP

## BOARD OF EDUCATION

Policy and Regulation 5530 - Substance Abuse or Policy 5530.1 Random Drug Testing as appropriate to the situation.

A PBASD will only be used in accordance with the guidelines of this Policy. The Principal or designee shall be responsible for the proper training of school staff members in the use of the PBASD in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications.

### **School Sponsored Events - Regulation**

Each student entering a school-sponsored activity may be required to submit to a PBASD test as a condition of admission. The administration will determine at which school-sponsored events the PBASD test procedures will be used. These events will include, but are not limited to, proms, dances, concerts, overnight activities, optional field trips, athletic events, etc.

1. The administration will determine the manner by which the students will be tested: entire group, pre-determined random selection, or based on individualized reasonable suspicion. For purposes of this policy, indications of reasonable suspicion may include, but are not limited to, such characteristics as alcohol odor, slurred speech, unsteady gait, lack of coordination, presence of an alcohol container, bloodshot or glazed eyes or other similar information.
2. The trained administrator or trained staff member present at such events has the authority to test and retest any individual suspected of being under the influence of alcohol even if the student has a negative test upon entering the event. Students attending these school-sponsored events may be required to take a PBASD test administered by a trained member of the staff or administration prior to entering the event, during the course of the event, or upon leaving the event.
3. The PBASD will be administered by a trained staff member in the presence of a school administrator. All administrators and staff members to be responsible for the use of a PBASD test will be trained in the use of the PBASD machine.
4. There must always be two people present when the observation checklist is completed or the PBASD is administered (either another school administrator or a school staff member).
5. Any student who tests positive will be given a second test with an active device after a waiting period of twenty (20) minutes.
6. If this test is also positive, the student will be denied entrance to the event, detained by school officials until parents/guardians arrive and an investigation is conducted. The student will be subject to disciplinary procedures for using alcohol at a school-sponsored event pursuant to Board policy (See #10 below).
7. Students who refuse the test will be denied entrance to the event and detained until parents/guardians arrive to remove them. The student will be subject to disciplinary

# POLICY ————— PEQUANNOCK TOWNSHIP

## BOARD OF EDUCATION

procedures for using alcohol at a school-sponsored event pursuant to Board policy (See #10 below).

8. A student already in attendance at a school-sponsored event who is suspected of being under the influence will be tested or retested.
9. Students who test positive for alcohol or refuse to take the PBASD test upon determination that there is reasonable cause to suspect that they have consumed alcohol will be subject to all school rules relating to the use and/or possession of alcohol pursuant to Board policy (See #10 below).
10. Students who test positive for alcohol as a result of suspicion-based testing will be subject to the Board's Policy 5530 – Substance Abuse. Students who test positive for alcohol as a result of random testing will be subject to the Board's Policy 5530.1 – Random Drug Testing.

N.J.S.A. 18A:40A-12

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-4.1 et seq.

Adopted: 1 October 2007

Revised and Adopted: 24 August 2009

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