



# Pequannock Township High School

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Richard M. Hayzler, Principal

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August 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As you may already know, the Pequannock Township School District was one of the first districts in New Jersey to implement a Random Drug Testing Program. We took this step to provide schools and families with an additional deterrent to drug and alcohol use. We ask our students to make a commitment to live drug and alcohol free and to back that commitment by consenting to be part of our random drug testing pool.

Our prior experience with random drug and alcohol testing has convinced us that it is a powerful deterrent and has had a positive effect on student attitudes regarding drug and alcohol use. Furthermore, it provides our students with positive peer pressure not to use drugs or alcohol. This year, we expect to expand the testing program by increasing our sampling rate and by doing more EtG tests for alcohol. These steps will increase the rigor of our program.

The information included in these documents provides you with all the forms that will be associated with the Random Testing Program this year. These include:

- A "Consent to Test" form that is required for your child(ren) to be enrolled in the Random Drug Testing Program. A separate form is needed for each child.
- Frequently Asked Questions

We encourage you to enroll your child(ren) in the Random Drug Testing Program by asking them to make a commitment to live drug and alcohol free. Should you have any questions, please feel free to call me during regular school hours.

Remember, random drug testing is meant to be a deterrent and is used as a tool to prevent students from starting drug and alcohol use. This is not a punitive program. Should a child test positive, the emphasis will be on early intervention, not punishment. We hope you will support this initiative by enrolling your child(ren) in the voluntary drug testing program at Pequannock Township High School.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Richard M. Hayzler".

Richard M. Hayzler  
Principal

**PEQUANNOCK TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**Random Drug and Alcohol Testing Program**  
**Frequently Asked Questions**

*Does random testing change the status of our existing substance abuse policy?*

No. Our current policy and procedures which govern suspicion testing remain in effect.

*How is random testing different from suspicion testing?*

Suspicion testing is based in New Jersey law which requires that students who are suspected of being under the influence will be sent for a complete drug panel. Random testing acts as a deterrent to drug use and does not presume that students are under the influence. They are tested randomly and this is the reason for some of the differences in the way the two policies work.

*What are the legal grounds for random drug testing in schools?*

There are several models of random drug testing which have been tested in both state and federal courts. Court decisions support random testing within certain parameters as a deterrent to drug use to promote an orderly and safe learning environment.

*Who is eligible for testing?*

At the high school, students who wish to drive and park on campus, participants in co- and extra-curricular activities and athletics, students who have violated the district substance abuse policy, and students who volunteer for testing make up the testing pool. At the middle school, the testing pool consists of volunteers and those students who have violated the district's substance abuse policy.

*How long is my commitment for testing?*

Once a student enters the testing pool by submitting a "Consent to Test" form, they are in the program for a full calendar year. Students may opt out of testing by submitting an activity drop form with the understanding that they would be ineligible for activities for a full calendar year from the date of the drop. Students who are in the pool voluntarily may drop out without penalty.

*What are the test procedures?*

All tests and testing results are held confidential and private. Students may be randomly selected for testing on any regular school day. Testing will be conducted at Chilton Hospital. Students will take a bus over to Chilton to be tested and then will be returned to school. Testing preserves student dignity and measures are taken to protect confidentiality and to prevent students tampering with testing samples.

*What about parent notification?*

Parents will receive a phone call notifying them that their child was randomly tested and sharing the preliminary test results. "Non-negative" screens will be sent for a confirmatory testing by a licensed lab. Parents will be notified of the results of confirmatory testing by a physician who is certified as a "Medical Review Officer."

*What are the consequences of a positive test result?*

Students who are in the mandatory program will lose privileges to participate in athletics/activities or to park on campus following board policy. They will also participate in an early intervention program either in-district or through an approved agency. Students voluntarily enrolled in the testing will participate in an early intervention program.

*How can I be reinstated to participate in activities/athletics/parking?*

You must submit a negative drug test prior to returning.

*Will any of this information be shared with law enforcement?*

No. All results remain confidential.