



Mecklenburg County Public Schools

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July 2021

Dear Middle or High School Parent/Guardian,

We care about your student. We care for their academic development as well as for their safety and well-being. Because we care, our School Board has adopted a program to help our students avoid the danger (to themselves and others) of drug use. We require all students in grades six through twelve who choose to participate in any of our clubs, organizations, sports, or other extracurricular activities to sign a pledge. This pledge states the student will refrain from the use of any drugs, including nicotine, and will submit to random drug testing. To indicate their support of the student and of the program, we also require the student's parent/guardian to sign the pledge form. Both signatures are required to allow their student to participate.

Fall sports are already underway, so it is essential that the school receive your signed form in the next few weeks. All schools are required to conduct seasonal meetings for students and parents to inform them of this program – please be on the lookout for that meeting date/time or video link. Your student's club/organization sponsor or coach will provide you or your student with the pledge form (or you can download it from the division website) and will also collect the signed forms and give them to the building principal. The building principal is responsible for maintaining the master pledge list. Club/organization sponsors or coaches may not allow any student to participate in their club, organization, or sport who does not have a completed pledge form. After Friday, August 20th, only students with signed pledge forms will be allowed to participate in the club, sport, or organization. Random drug testing of students will take place beginning in the fall of the year and there will be a minimum of two testing sessions each of the three sport/activity seasons.

We ask you to become familiar with the policy as it impacts your student's ability to participate in our school club, sport, organization, or extracurricular activity. You can review this policy by clicking on the following link and then scrolling down to page 55 for policies JFC-R2 and form JFC-R3: <https://mcpsweb.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Section-J-Students051721.pdf>

Thank you for your understanding and for your support of our efforts to keep students off of drugs.

Paul Nichols, Superintendent