

Walter Johnson High School

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Office of the Principal

DRUG, ALCOHOL, AND TOBACCO POLICY FOR STUDENT ATHLETES

Teammates depend on their fellow student-athletes to be in top physical and mental condition at all times during the season. The use of intoxicants will lead to a disciplinary enforcement and possible dismissal from the team. Listed are the guidelines that will be followed for use of any of the aforementioned substances.

Each student-athlete and parent/guardian must sign and return to school this statement which constitutes an agreement that the student-athlete will not possess, use or distribute controlled dangerous substances, any form of alcoholic beverage or tobacco products.

A student-athlete may file an appeal with the principal regarding the implementation of any step in this policy. S/he must be able to provide compelling and substantive information with the appeal for its consideration.

For offenses that are subject to the MCPS discipline policies and the Students Rights and Responsibilities guidelines, penalties may supersede those noted below.

Student-athletes who possess, use or distribute controlled dangerous substances (including steroids), any form of alcoholic beverage or who are legally cited by authorities for any related violation during the school year or at school related activities will be subject to the following penalties and responsibilities:

First Offense During High School Career

- Suspension from 20% of the upcoming athletic contests for the current or next athletic season for the participant
- The student-athlete must speak to the team about the violation
- The student-athlete must attend the team's practices, during the suspension. He/she will not actually participate in the organized practice but will be expected to perform other duties to support the team
- The student-athlete will be referred to the school's Maryland Student Assistance (MSAP) Program for assessment

Second Offense During High School Career

- The student-athlete will be removed from participation in athletics during the season in which the offense occurs and for the following two seasons (e.g., winter, spring)
- In addition the student-athlete will be referred to the school's MSAP program for further assessment and will require a recommendation from the MSAP program for return to participation in athletics

Third Offense During High School Career

- A third offense during a student's enrollment will cause suspension from athletics for an additional two seasons and will require a recommendation from the school's MSAP program for return to participation in athletics.

If a fourth offense should occur, a student-athlete will no longer be eligible to participate in athletics at Walter Johnson High School.

SMOKING/USE OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS

The following penalties will be applicable to students for Smoking/Use of Tobacco Products:

- **First Offense** - 1 Game Suspension
- **Second Offense** - 1 Game Suspension and enrollment and attendance in official smoking cessation program
- **Third Offense** - Suspension for the remainder of the season in which the violation occurred and placed on one year probation
- **Fourth Offense** - Removal from athletics for one calendar year

Please note: Offenses do not accumulate beyond the period of one calendar year.

We (parents and student) have read the above eligibility guidelines and tobacco, alcohol, and substance abuse policy and agree to abide by its provisions.

Athlete's Signature	Date	(Print Name)
Parent's Signature	Date	
(When parents are divorced and have legal joint custody, both parents must sign.)		
Team		Coach

MCPS Drug and Alcohol Policy

Use, possession, being under the influence of, or distribution of illegal intoxicants such as drugs and alcoholic beverages on school grounds or during a school related activity is prohibited.

Under this regulation all incidents concerning possession and/or use of intoxicants are to be reported to an administrator/security.

If the principal has reasonable cause to suspect that there may be a violation of the above law, the parents and/or guardians of the student will be notified and, in addition, the principal must notify the appropriate law enforcement authorities. Whenever possible the student's parents and/or guardians should be notified prior to the involvement of the police.

Students who use or possess intoxicants on MCPS property will be suspended for ten days with a police referral. If the student gets a professional drug assessment and follows the recommendations made by the assessor, the suspension is reduced to five days.

Students found to be in possession of intoxicants with intent to sell or distribute them on MCPS property or students engaged in the sale or distribution of intoxicants on MCPS property will be expelled with a police referral.

If a student appears to be unable to function properly and the behavior is such that the teacher is unable to determine if the cause of the problem is an intoxicant, the student should be referred to the school's security team and the principal immediately notified of the action.

(Intoxicants are defined as alcohol or controlled substances not authorized by a physician's prescription.)

(MCPS property is to be interpreted under this regulation to include the location of an MCPS sponsored activity as well as the school building and its surrounding grounds.)

MCPS Smoking Policy

The smoking or possession of any tobacco substance in school and on school grounds is prohibited under Maryland State law and Montgomery County Public Schools regulations. This does not include nicotine replacement therapy. These regulations are required so a tobacco-free school environment may be maintained. The policy at Walter Johnson HS calls for the following actions if a student is found in violation of these regulations.

First Offense

A conference is held with the student and an administrator, detention (lunch or after school) is assigned and a letter is sent home to the parent or guardian.

Second Offense

If a student further violates the smoking ban, a student will be assigned two 45 minute detentions after school and may be referred to a smoking cessation program in the community.

Third Offense

Any student violating the policy for the third time will be subject to a one-day suspension (in school or out of school). Subsequent offenses will receive more severe consequences.