

Random drug testing reviewed for 2009-10

Written by Brenda Johnson Brandt

A total of 184 tests were conducted in the 2009-10 random drug testing (RDT) program for Holyoke JR/SR High.

Details of the school's second year for RDT were reported by Principal Susan Ortner at the Aug. 3 meeting of the Board of Education.

Ortner pointed out a parent meeting to explain the RDT program is set for Thursday, Aug. 12 at 7 p.m. in the HHS auditorium.

A total of 217 students were enrolled in last year's RDT program. Ortner noted 86 students submitted one test, 35 students submitted two, seven submitted three, two retests were required (sample was dilute the first time), one student submitted four tests and one student requested a hair test and paid for that test.

RDT tests included 96 dips, which test for five drugs (not including alcohol); 87 EtGs, which detect alcohol up to 80 hours after consumption; and one hair test.

Ortner noted that for 2010-11, all students called for testing will provide one sample which will undergo both the dip and EtG tests.

One student tested positive for THC (marijuana) in 2009-10, reported Ortner. The student withdrew from RDT the following week and will not be eligible for school activities for 365 days from the date of withdrawal.

In other details, Ortner noted four students left school and therefore withdrew from RDT during the year and one student was on medical leave.

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Two students were at the state track meet on the last testing date when their number was called, so tests were not completed. A Haxtun student who participates in an HHS activity was not contacted for testing when their number was called on the last test date in May; and one senior refused to submit for a May test.

In the spring of 2010, Ortnier noted 83 percent of all junior high students and 88 percent of high school students were enrolled in RDT.

Other business

In other business Aug. 3, the Re-1J board:

—approved a calendar revision. The Sept. 27 BOCES inservice will not be held, so classes will be conducted that day, in exchange for no school on Thursday, March 10.

—accepted the resignation of assistant cook Manuela Favela.

—received homeschool notification from Jamie Hahlweg for her children Jessica and Christopher.

—agreed to allow Holyoke Chamber of Commerce use of the new gym Sept. 11 to host a Harlem Ambassadors basketball game.

—admitted non-resident students Richard Guernsey, Kody Timm, Deyten Klein, Christian and Aerian Swenson, Piper Sorter, Taylor Hendrix and J.C. Steggs; and granted transportation requests to pick up Guernsey and Timm in the Haxtun School District and Sorter, Hendrix and

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Steggs from the Wray School District.

—approved the following extra-duty assignments: Dusty McConnell, head JH/assistant HS football and assistant JH wrestling coach; Andrea Kammer, assistant JH volleyball; Steven Ortner, assistant HS softball; Pat Vasa, volunteer HS assistant boys' golf; Aaron Sprague, assistant HS boys' basketball; Theresa Tharp, assistant JH girls' basketball; Jack Garrison, head JH wrestling; Jennifer Koops, volunteer HS girls' golf; Stuart Potter, band director; Luke Thomas, assistant JR/SR high football.

—acknowledged a gift of additional football pads in the amount of \$2,873 from donors Robert and Karen Trumper, Troy and Kim Killin, Curt and Chandra Parker, Rick and Jessica Cumming, Rocci Trumper, Holyoke Booster Club and Harvey and Nancy Colglazier.

—approved exchange student Julian Titze from Germany for the 2010-11 school year.

—approved a memorandum of understanding with Haxtun School District for the food service program to be coordinated by both schools with Chartwells School Dining Service.

Supt. Bret Miles said he and Haxtun Supt. Darcy Garretson are both pleased with the simple contract agreement for this program and feel this could be the beginning of several simple partnerships between the two school districts.

—approved the 2010-11 faculty handbook, with changes presented by JR/SR High principal Susan Ortner.

—agreed to apply for Type V substitute teaching authorization in behalf of Jula Bornhoft, Penny Johnson, Laura Beth Schroetlin, Shirley Krogmeier, Michelle Gregg, Helen Murray, Harvey Eurich, Summer Struckmeyer, Sara McMurrin and Sheryl Farnsworth.