

The Student Drug-testing Coalition

a project of the
Drug-Free Projects Coalition, Inc.

programs and strategies to prevent and reduce drug use

STUDENT DRUG-TESTING PROGRAMS

The facts and the need

- # By the 12th grade more than one-third of high school seniors have used drugs.¹
- # 80% of high school students and 44% of middle school students have *personally* witnessed illegal use, possession and dealing of drugs on school grounds.²
- # 61% of high-school students and 31% of middle-school students report they attend schools where drugs are used, kept or sold. The 2007 numbers represent increases over previous years.³
- # Students attending schools where drugs are used, kept or sold are at a higher risk for drug use than students attending drug-free schools.⁴
- # Substance abuse adds at least \$41 billion dollars to the costs of elementary and secondary education in terms of special education, teacher turnover, truancy, property damage injury, counseling, and other costs.⁵
- # Schools that have implemented non-disciplinary student drug testing programs have found the programs to be effective in reducing drug use and improving the learning environment for all students.⁶
- # 80% (2002-03 school year) and 79% (2003-04 school year) of schools with random student drug-testing programs achieved scores higher than the state average on the mandated graduation test for grades 10-12.⁷



STUDENT DRUG-TESTING COALITION

Helping students pursue a better future.

¹ PRIDE 2004-2005 National Summary, August 2006. Over 35% of 12th grade students used marijuana and 8.8% used cocaine within past year.

²National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University, August 2007: "National Survey of American Attitudes on Substance Abuse XII, Teen and Parents."

³Ibid.

⁴Ibid.

⁵The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University. "Malignant Neglect: Substance Abuse and America's Schools". September 2001.

⁶Institute for Behavior and Health, Inc., "Preliminary Study of Student Drug Testing Programs" for the U.S. Dept. of Education, August 2002. DuPont, Robert L. M.D., et al.

⁷McKinney, Joseph R., J.D., Ed.D. "The Effectiveness of Random Drug Testing Programs 2005" August 2005.