

**DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING OF BUS DRIVERS**

The safety of our students, employees, and the general public requires that bus drivers perform their duties free from the effects of alcohol and/or drugs. A driver, who uses and abuses alcohol and/or drugs, is a hazard to the students he/she is transporting, to the general public, to other school employees and to him/herself. In accordance with the federal Omnibus Transportation Employee Testing Act of 1991, in addition to other pertinent state and federal laws promulgated to effectuate of drug and alcohol free workplace, the Board is committed to the establishment of an alcohol and controlled substance testing program for school bus drivers, in addition to any other employees who drive vehicles to transport sixteen (16) or more passengers, including the driver.

All employees, including bus drivers, are subject to the Drug Free Work Place Policy and any other substance abuse policies in effect within RSU 26. The purpose of the testing program shall be to help prevent accidents, injuries and deaths resulting from the misuse of alcohol and controlled substances by drivers performing safety-sensitive functions. The requirements of these federal regulations shall be implemented by the Superintendent, who shall have the authority to adopt administrative rules and impose consequences for violations of such rules as he/she deems necessary.

Legal References: 49 C.F.R Part 283

26 M.R.S.A. §§ 681(8) (B); 685(2); 689

Adopted: 3/30/15