


Voluntary Random Drug Testing


Bernards Township Board of
Education Presentation

May 14, 2007




Common Elements Addressed

- Percentage of students impacted
 - Direct cost
 - Community values
 - Benchmarking
 - Impact on facilities
 - Impact on safety and welfare
- 




Common Elements NOT Addressed

- Impact on college admission
 - Impact on rigor and relevance
 - Ability to meet statutory compliance
 - Impact on losing or reducing the program
 - Student achievement
 - Academic theories
- 




Student Stressors Survey

September 2005

- Identified alcohol and drugs among 10th and 12th grade as an area of concern
 - 10th and 12th grade students using alcohol six or more times in the past year
 - Correlation made b/w high participation in activities, especially sports, and substance use
- 



VRDT Committee

- Members: students, administrators, parents, faculty
 - History
 - 1991 – 2007 ADAS Survey Results
 - 2005 - Student Stressors Survey Results
 - 2006 – 07 NJ State Steroid Testing Policy
 - Our Charge
 - Hackettstown Warren Hills Hunterdon
Central North Hunterdon & Pequannock
- 



U. S. Supreme Court Decisions

- Veronia School District v. Wayne Acton
(Oregon) 1995

- BOE Pottawatomie County v. Lindsay
Earls (Oklahoma) 2002





NJ State Supreme Court Decision

- Joye v. Hunterdon Central Regional High School BOE (New Jersey 2003)



American Drug and Alcohol Survey

Percent of Bernards Township School District 12th Graders Who Have Used Each Drug in the Last Month

	1990-91	1994-95	1998-99	2002-03	2006-07
Alcohol	71%	69%	55%	56%	69%*
Marijuana	13%	22%	21%	23%	33%
Cocaine	2%	2%	4%	0%	1%

*Statistically significant change.






American Drug and Alcohol Survey

Percent of Bernards Township School District Students and 12th Graders Across the Country Who Have Used Each Drug in the Last Month (2006-07)

	<u>6th Graders</u>	<u>8th Graders</u>	<u>10th Graders</u>	<u>12th Graders</u>	<u>National 12th Graders</u>
Alcohol	5%	14%	47%	69%	45%
Been Drunk	<1%	2%	25%	50%	30%
Marijuana	0%	1%	14%	33%	18%



American Drug and Alcohol Survey

Percent of Bernards Township Students Who Have Used Alcohol in the Last Month

	1990-91	1994-95	1998-99	2002-03	2006-07
Grade					
6	11%	16%	12%	7%*	5%
8	33%	37%	21%*	17%	14%
10	52%	56%	43%*	40%	47%
12	71%	69%	55%	56%	69%*
National Avg. 12	57%	50%	52%	49%	45%

*Statistically significant change.

American Drug and Alcohol Survey

Percent of Bernards Township Students Who Have Used Marijuana in the Last Month

	1990-91	1994-95	1998-99	2002-03	2006-07
Grade					
6	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
8	0%	3%	2%	2%	1%
10	3%	13%*	13%	18%	14%
12	13%	22%	21%	23%	33%
National Avg. 12	14%	19%	23%	22%	18%


*Statistically significant change.



American Drug and Alcohol Survey


Age of Bernards Township 12th Graders When They First Tried Alcohol or Marijuana

	1990-91	1994-95	1998-99	2002-03	2006-07
Age of First Time Getting Drunk	14.2	14.1	14.7	14.8	15.2
Age of First Marijuana Use	15.1	15.1	15.0	15.4	15.3






Current Prevention Activities

- Full time SAC's at WAMS & RHS
 - BOE Policy
 - Prevention Assemblies / Youth Summit
 - Health Curriculum K - 12
 - DARE Grades 5 & 7
 - Peer Helpers 6 - 8
 - Peer Leaders 9 - 12
- 




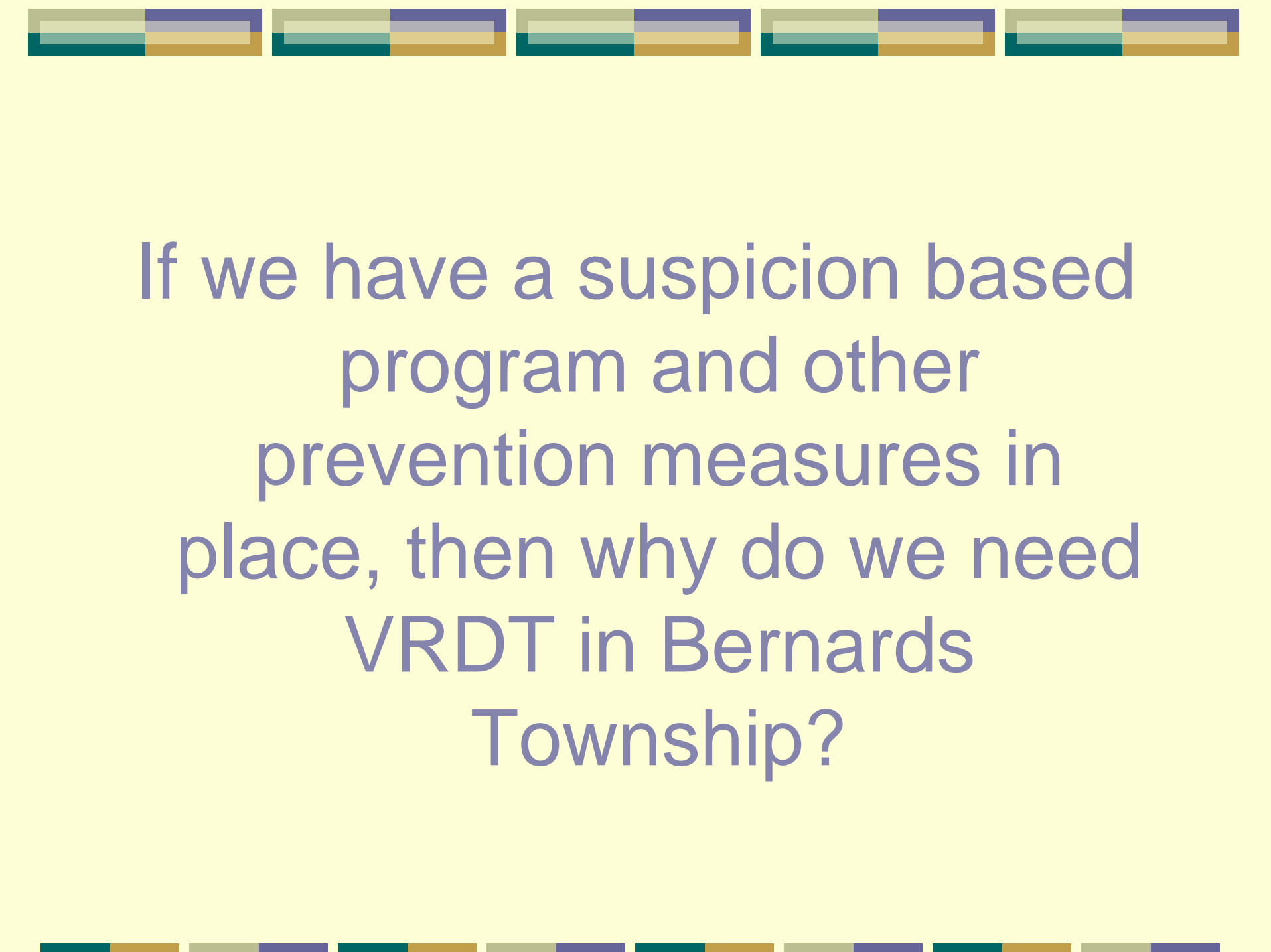
Current Prevention Activities

- Transitions Project
 - P.U.S.H.
 - Early Identification Core Team / I&RS
 - NJSIAA Steroid Testing Policy
 - Contract for Conduct of Student Athletes
 - Project Graduation
 - Municipal Alliance Committee's Building Youth Program
- 



Suspicion Based Testing vs. Random Testing

- Suspicion: 18A:40A-12 (1988) Requires that all educational personnel must report a student to the principal or his designee for a reasonable suspicion
 - A student suspected of being under the influence of a mind-altering substance is required by law to submit to (1) an exam by a physician and (2) a drug test
 - Random testing is “suspicionless”
- 



If we have a suspicion based
program and other
prevention measures in
place, then why do we need
VRDT in Bernards
Township?




Where is the evidence?

- Anecdotal information
 - Empirical data from:
 - Hunterdon Central
 - Hackettstown High School
 - SATURN study
 - Ball State study
 - Work of Joseph McKinney
 - Robert DuPont
-




Hunterdon Central 1999 Survey Results

- Drug use went down in 20/28 categories
 - Multi-drug users:
 - 9th grade-57% decrease
 - 10th grade-100% decrease
 - 11th grade-14% decrease
 - 12th grade-52% decrease
- 



Hunterdon Central 2002 Survey Results


- Following 3-year suspension of RDT survey results showed drug use was up in 18/28 categories compared to the 1999 data.
 - Multi drug users
 - 9th grade-316% increase
 - 10th grade-100% increase
 - 11th grade-52% increase
 - 12th grade-209% increase
- 



Hackettstown

● % of 11th grade students who have used each drug in the last month:

	Pre-RDT 2003-04	RDT 2005-06
Alcohol	59%	43%
Marijuana	26%	13%






Hackettstown


● % of 12th grade students who have used each drug in the last month:

	Pre-RDT 2003-04	RDT 2005-06
Alcohol	59%	55%
Marijuana	26%	15%






Positives of VRDT

- Random Drug Testing serves as a deterrent
 - Reassures parents that their students have another tool to deal with the outside pressures to abuse substances
 - Gives kids a tangible reason to choose for themselves a lifestyle free from substance abuse
- 




VRDT at RHS would involve:

- All athletes
 - All students involved in extra-curricular activities
 - Students who volunteer to be in testing pool
 - Students granted permission to park on campus
 - Students who violate the substance abuse policy by using or caught in possession of a mind-altering substance
- 



VRDT at WA would involve:

- Only 8th graders whose parents sign them up for this program
 - Students who violate the substance abuse policy by being under the influence or in possession of mind-altering substances at school
- 




% of students impacted:

● RHS

- Anticipated 2007 – 08 Total Population: 1650
- 80% of 1650 = 1320
- Propose to test 10 - 20% of 1320 = 132 - 264

● WAMS









- Anticipated 2007 – 08 8th Grade Population: 410
 - 1st year 40% expected to volunteer: 164
 - Propose to test 10 – 20%: 16 – 32
 - 2nd year 80% expected to volunteer: 328
 - Propose to test 10 – 20%: 33 - 66
- 

Direct Costs

- Average cost per assembly program = \$1200
- Youth Summit = \$10,000
- 1650 RHS student population
- 80% of 1650(RHS)=1320
- \$12/urine test x 132 (is 10% of N)= \$1584
- \$12/urine test x 264 (is 20% of N)=\$3168
- \$35/confirmation test (GC/MS) and medical review of non-negatives approximately, (5 x \$35) = \$175
- \$8/oral swab test x 132 (is 10% of N)= \$1056
- \$8/oral swab test x 264 (is 20% of N)=\$2112
- **Total supplies RHS cost = \$2815 - \$5455**
 - \$35/ EtG test x 132 (is 10% of N) = \$4620 (not included in cost)
 - \$35/ EtG test x 264 (is 20% of N) = \$9240 (not included in cost)




Benchmark Districts

-  Chatham
 -  Livingston
 -  Hillsborough
 -  Montgomery
 -  Princeton
 -  Holmdel
 -  Millburn
- 




Ability to Meet Statutory Compliance

- New Jersey Student Random Drug Testing Law
 - N.J.S.A. 18A:40A-(22-25)
 - Adopted August 29, 2005
 - Random drug testing of students
 - Extracurricular Activities
 - Sports
 - Parking Permit
 - Volunteer
 - Test Positive Under Suspicion Based Policy
- 




How Does VRDT Work?

- Random number generator
 - Testing Site Procedures
 - Secure the site
 - Maintain Student Confidentiality
 - Chain of Custody Testing
 - Student gives saliva and urine sample
 - Samples are screened for metabolites
 - Student returns to class
 - Non-Negative results are sent to lab for further confirmatory testing
- 




Impact on Safety & Welfare

- Supports Safe Learning Environment
 - Positive impact on recreational substance use and abuse
 - Supports Normative Theory
 - Empirical Evidence shows decrease in use when coupled to existing SAP
 - Becomes a part of the student culture
 - Gives students, parents and faculty another deterrent tool
- 



Students Who Test Positive


At RHS

- Suspended from all extra-curricular activities for 2 weeks
 - Meet with SAC and parents
 - Determine need for further evaluation
 - Complete 3 socio-educational meetings with SAC over two week suspension from activities
- 



Students Who Test Positive

At WAMS

- Meet with SAC and parents
 - Determine need for further evaluation
 - No negative consequences for school or extracurricular activities
- 




How Many Students Test Positive in VRDT?

- Hunterdon Central Reg.HS (2005 – 06)
 - 3 positive tests out of 600 tested
- 1 positive test for each of the following schools in the past 2 years (2005 – 07)
 - Hackettstown HS
 - Warren Hills RHS
 - Pequannock HS






Community Values

- Empower students to make healthy decisions
 - Reduce drug abuse
 - Get help for students who need it
 - Defer onset of use
 - Protect students
 - Maximize educational opportunities
- 




Impact on Facilities

- Need to secure facility to conduct VRDT
 - Set aside time for nurses to administer tests
 - Staff to administer program
 - Set up storage of tests and supplies
- 




VRDT Misconceptions

- Purely Punitive
 - Curricular activities interrupted
 - Erodes trusting relationship
 - Students drop out of activities
 - Increase in use of hard to detect substances
- 



Confidentiality

- FERPA
 - 42 CFR Part 2
 - State Law
 - School Policy
 - HIPAA
- 



Committee Recommends VRDT

● At RHS (9 – 12)

- Athletes, Extra-Curricular Participants, Those who apply for Parking Permits, Volunteers and Violators of Suspicion Based Policy

● At WAMS – 8th grade only

- For parents who wish to enroll their children into the program
 - Violators of Suspicion Based Policy
- 