



**Student Drug Testing and  
the Role of Student  
Assistance Programs and  
Support Programs**

# Whose Problem Is It Anyway?

---

A school does not have an “alcohol and other drug (ATOD) problem”. ATOD use and abuse are community concerns that are manifested in school and other community locations. The larger response must come from the community in working with the school.

# Student Assistance Programs (SAPs)

---

SAPs provide a comprehensive school-based framework for the delivery of K-12 prevention, identification, intervention and support services.

Through collaborative efforts among students, parents, schools and community resources, SAPs assist students in achieving academic and social success by promoting healthy development, reducing barriers to learning and building upon strengths.

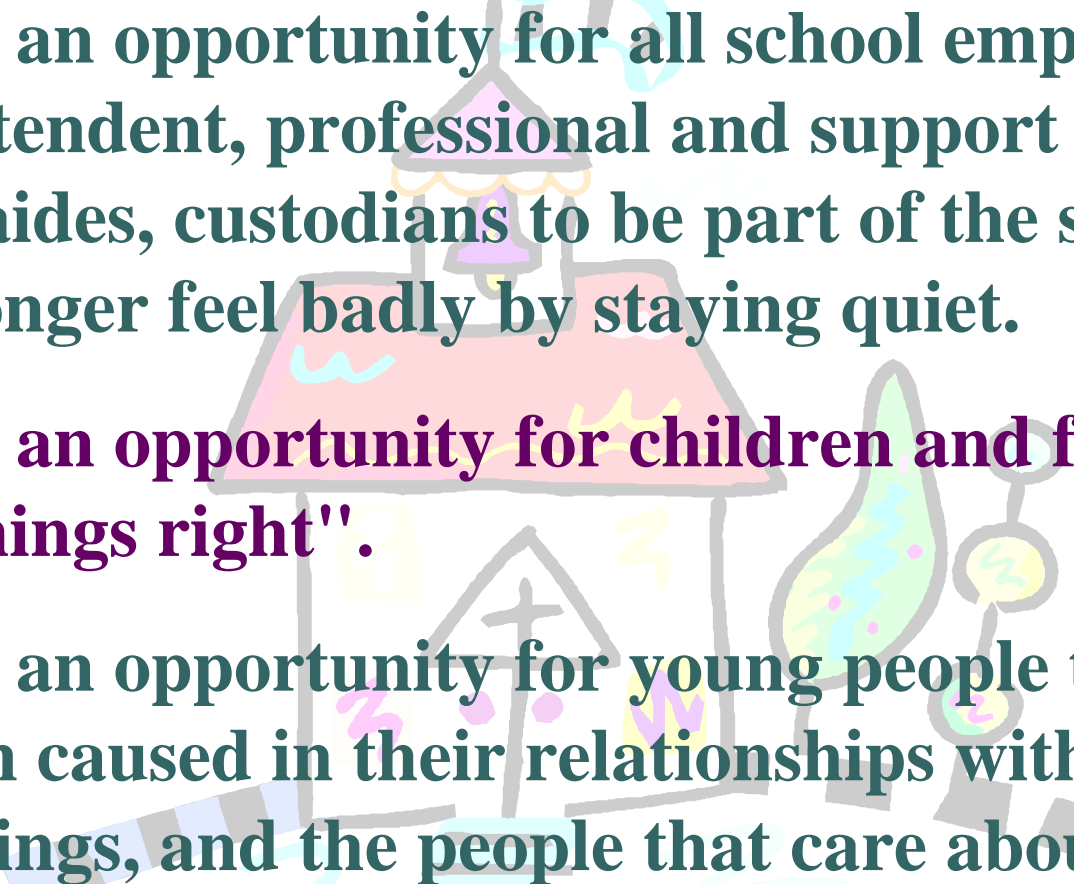
**“SAPs are a collaborative framework that creates opportunities for all students and families to be healthy, successful and connected”**

NSAA 2006



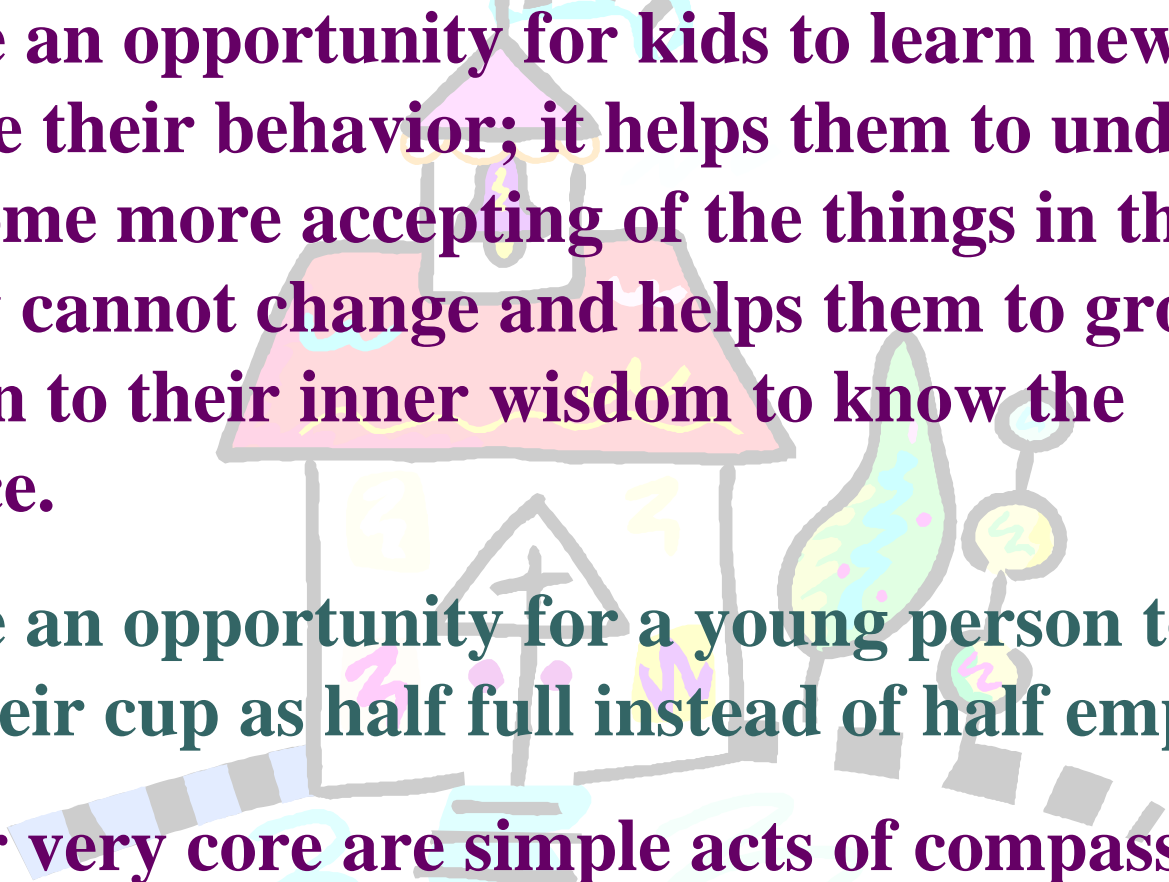
# Student Assistance Programs

---

- Provide an opportunity for all school employees (Superintendent, professional and support staff, drivers, aides, custodians) to be part of the solution and no longer feel badly by staying quiet.
  - Provide an opportunity for children and families to "make things right".
  - Provide an opportunity for young people to repair any harm caused in their relationships with parents, their siblings, and the people that care about them.
- 




# Student Assistance Programs

---

- Provide an opportunity for kids to learn new skills to change their behavior; it helps them to understand and become more accepting of the things in their lives that they cannot change and helps them to grow down and listen to their inner wisdom to know the difference.
  - Provide an opportunity for a young person to start seeing their cup as half full instead of half empty.
  - At their very core are simple acts of compassion.
- 

# Essential SAP Components

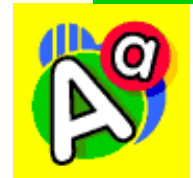
---

- School Board Policy 
- Staff Development 
- Program Awareness 
- Internal Referral Process
- Problem-Solving Team

# Essential SAP Components

---

- Student Support Groups
- Cooperation & Collaboration with Community Agencies and Resources
- Integration with other School-Based Programs
- Program Evaluation



# Types of SAPs

---

- External Model
  - Internal Model
  - Core Team Model
  - Hybrid Model
- 
- A faint, light-colored illustration in the background shows a person sitting and reading a large, open book. The person is depicted in a simple, sketchy style. The book is open, with pages visible. The overall tone is educational and focused on learning.



# SAP Referral Flow Chart



Behavior checklist sent out by team

Team makes a determination

Call Parent/Guardian

SAP process stops



Get written permission and have at least 2 team members meet with parents and student



Develop strategies for support

Use out-of-school resources

Referral for assessment

Use in-school resources

Mental Health

Alcohol and Other Drug

Other

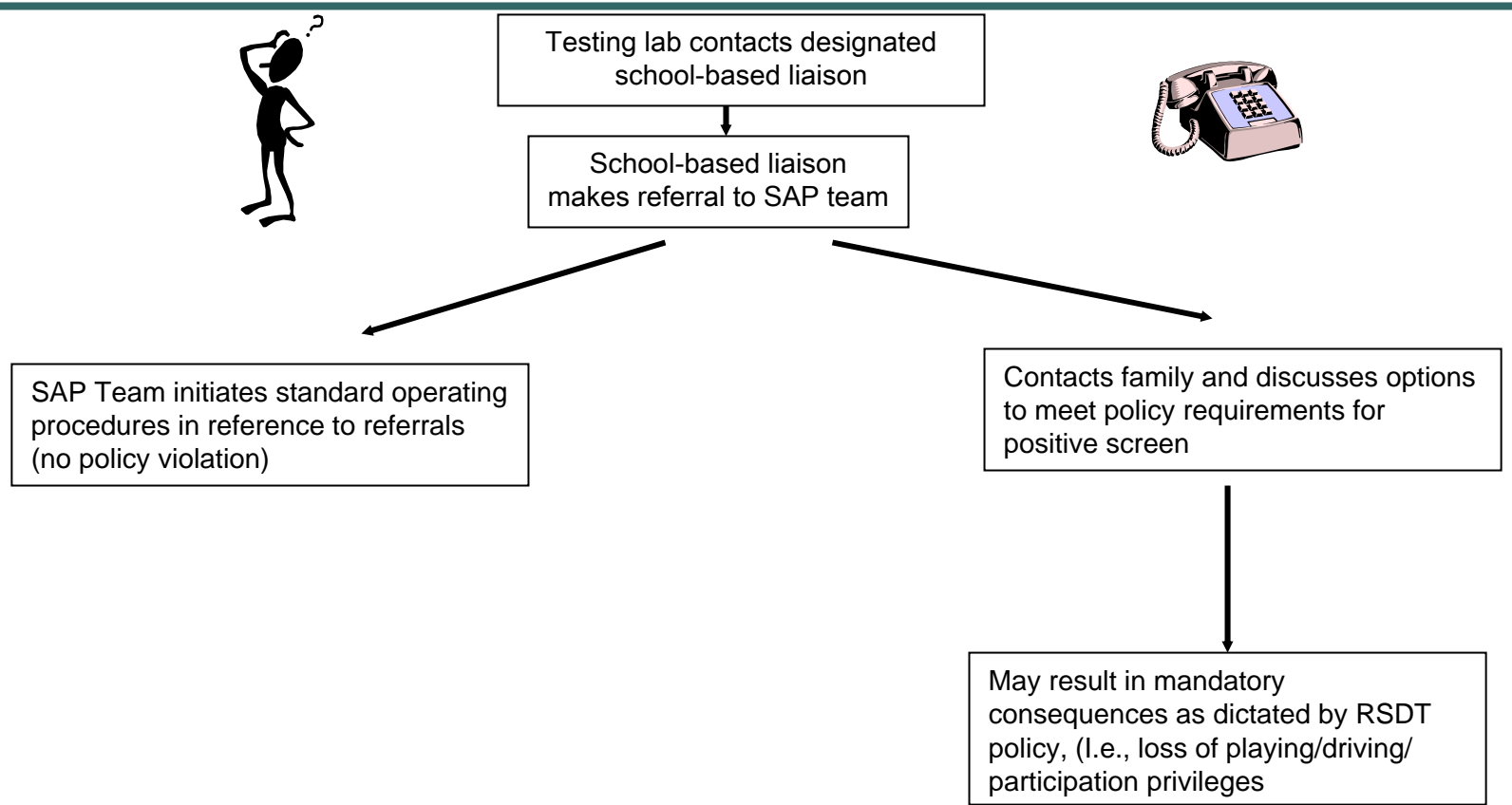
Develop a plan

Treatment or other interventions

Follow up



# SAP Flow Chart With Positive Drug Test Results



# Relationships Between SAPs and a Random Drug Testing Program

---

- Examining the Need for RSDT Program
- Connections with Community Coalitions
- Providing ATOD Education

# Relationships Between SAPs and a Random Drug Testing Program

---

- Communication
- Confidentiality
- Evaluation

# NSAA Research on Student Assistance Programs

---

\*Retrospective Analysis of the Pennsylvania SAP  
Outcome Data: Implications for Practice and  
Research- November 2003

Research conducted by Dr. Carl Fertman, University  
of Pittsburgh and Dr. Susan Tarasevich and  
Dr. Nancy Hepler

To download complete report go to [www.nsaa.us](http://www.nsaa.us)

\*Research Commissioned by the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. This research was conducted as part of the National Research Agenda for the National Student Assistance Association (NSAA)

# National Student Assistance Association

---

4200 Wisconsin Avenue,  
Ste. 106-118  
Washington, DC 20016

[www.nsaa.us](http://www.nsaa.us)

[info@nsaa.us](mailto:info@nsaa.us)

800.257.6310

Executive Director  
Lee Rush, M.Ed., CAC