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## **Kanawha schools should use drug tests**

Can you think of any type of employer these days that doesn't require mandatory drug testing of some sort?

In most cases, the rule makes total sense. We obviously don't need airline pilots, bus drivers, air traffic controllers, school crossing guards, police officers or firefighters drugged up on the job. Too much is at stake.

We would argue that the same is true for schoolteachers. That's why we at AFTexposed.com and NEAexposed.com were disappointed to read that the Kanawha County Board of Education abandoned its random drug testing policy for teachers and other school employees.

We have no idea why the board decided to dump the program, despite the legal challenge. We would assume that any judge or jury would find it desirable to have clear-minded teachers at the chalkboard, rather than drugged-up zombies who are protected by union rules.

We would have also assumed that the unions would be interested in positive public relations. Are parents asking too much by seeking sober individuals to instruct and oversee their children? Why would the unions not welcome random testing as a way to demonstrate their unity with parents on this crucial issue?

Finding a few drug addicts within the teaching profession is not a black mark against the entire profession. There are substance abusers in every line of work. Indeed, it would be a plus for the unions to support efforts to weed out abusers within their ranks. It would show that the unions care about their reputation, and about protecting kids.

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