**THIS IS AN INFORMATION PAPER**

**TO: Members of the Hardin County Board of Education (HCBE)**

**FROM: Robert B. Lewis, Association Superintendent for Student Services**

**DATE: September 13, 2012**

**TOPIC: Instituting a “drug screening” program at Brown St. Education Center (BSEC)**

 **For all students referred to Brown St. under the Code of Conduct Drug/**

 **Alcohol Policy.**

**DISCUSSION:**

The Hardin County Board of Education approved that all students that are found to be in possession, use, or under the influence of a controlled substance, alcohol, etc., on school grounds will be sent to Brown St. Education Center for a minimum of four weeks. During that four week period of time, those students will be placed on the level system and must agree to counseling and adhere to all rules and policies prior to being placed back in the regular school setting at the end of the four weeks. The provisions of this policy are outlined in the Hardin County Code of Conduct as approved for the 2012/13 school year by the HCBE.

Mr. King, in working with “The Brook” hospitals, is asking for the Hardin County Board of Education to fund a “drug screening program” for all students referred to Brown Street. While athletes are subjected to random drug screenings, students who display inappropriate behavior, causing removal from their home schools, are not subject to any random screenings. In order for “any” behavior modification program to change student behavior, giving them the best chance to graduate, we must ensure students are able to receive the program without the hindrance of controlled substances. The screenings would give assurances that the students are able to receive the programming and apply the strategies for success. It would also serve as a follow-up check for those already identified with a Drug/Alcohol abuse problem. The cost for the “drug screening” program is estimated to be approximately $1,000 a year, based on 10 drug screens per month at a cost of $10 per screen. In addition to the “drug screening program”, Mr. King is requesting additional funding for an “8 Week Parenting Program” to be offered at BSEC for both students and parents of those students identified as “at risk”. The “Brook Hospitals” will provide Mental Health screenings periodically throughout the year and will provide a certified counselor to facilitate an 8 week parenting program at the BSEC. The “Brook Hospitals” will work with school personnel on Family Dynamics of those students assigned to the program prior to the start of the “8 week program”. The total cost for this program is $2,500 per school year.