

CHAPTER 2.00 - SCHOOL BOARD GOVERNANCE AND ORGANIZATION

TOBACCO USE IN DISTRICT FACILITIES	2.90
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POLICY:

I. Rationale

It is the School Board's responsibility to provide a safe and healthy learning environment free from exposure to known carcinogens, and one in which adults are role models for healthy behavior. The Board is acutely aware of the serious health risks associated with the use of tobacco products both to users and non-users, and that most tobacco use begins before the age of eighteen. Tobacco is the leading cause of preventable death in Florida. Comprehensive school policies to prevent tobacco use are an effective strategy to reduce tobacco use in the state. The Board recognizes that District personnel and school visitors also serve as role models to students and, therefore, adopts this Tobacco Free School Policy to endorse a healthy lifestyle and prevent tobacco use.

II. Definition

For the purpose of this policy, "tobacco" is defined to include any lighted or unlighted cigarette, cigar, pipe, bidi, clove cigarette, cigarillo, hookah, and any other smoking product, and any smokeless or spitless tobacco also known as dip, chew, snuff, nus, orbs, and strips, sticks, or electronic cigarettes in any form.

All components of this policy are effective 24 hours per day, 365 days per year. This includes all days when school is not in session and at any school sponsored event off campus. This policy applies to all students, staff, faculty, volunteers, contracted vendors and school visitors.

III. Tobacco Use Prohibited

All uses of tobacco of any kind (as described above) that may be developed that contain nicotine or tobacco or a combination of the two are prohibited on any property owned, leased, or contracted by the District including, but not limited to: all schools, district offices, practice fields, playgrounds, football fields, baseball fields, softball fields, soccer fields, tennis courts and all open areas at any time. All uses of tobacco are also prohibited from District-owned vehicles including, but not limited to: school busses, vans, trucks, station wagons, cars, etc. at any time.

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No student is permitted to possess any tobacco product, paper used to roll cigarettes, lighters or other paraphernalia at any time.

IV. Tobacco Promotion Prohibited

Tobacco advertising is prohibited on school grounds, in all school-sponsored and school purchased publications, and at all school-sponsored events. Tobacco promotional items that promote the use of tobacco products, including but not limited to: clothing, bags, lighters and other articles are not permitted on school grounds, in school vehicles or at school sponsored events. Sponsorships, gifts, grants and tobacco prevention materials provided by tobacco companies or their subsidiaries are prohibited.

V. Notice to Communicate Policy

Appropriate signs will be posted throughout the District at entrances and other appropriate locations on all academic grounds, administrative spaces, and athletic fields indicating that tobacco use is not permitted. Students will be provided notice of this policy through student handbooks. District personnel will be provided notice of this policy through personnel handbooks. District vehicles will display clearly marked "no smoking" insignia. This policy will also be available for review on District websites. Announcements will be made during home athletic events both before the event and at the mid-point or intermission of the event, as well as at school functions where deemed appropriate.

VI. Enforcement

Enforcement of this policy for students, staff and visitors is outlined below. All enforcement efforts will use the opportunity to promote the tobacco cessation program to violators.

A. Student consequences are included in the Student Code of Conduct.

B. Employee consequences

1. First Violation – verbal warning and review of policy with cessation program information provided.
2. Second Violation – a written reprimand with copies in personnel file and cessation program information provided.
3. Third Violation – required participation in a designated cessation program provided by the Wakulla County Health Department.
4. Fourth Violation – suspension without pay for one day.

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5. Further Violation – the employee may be terminated upon recommendation of the appropriate supervisor and with documentation of a least four violations.

C. General Public/Visitors/Contractors Consequences

1. First Violation – individual will be asked to refrain from tobacco use.
2. Second Violation – individual will be asked to refrain from tobacco use and a letter to the offender will be sent documenting the second offense.
3. Further Violation – repeated violations may result in a recommendation to the Superintendent to prohibit the individual from entering school district property for a specified length of time.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 1001.41, 1001.42, F.S.

LAWS IMPLEMENTED: 386.201-386.209, 1001.43, F.S.

HISTORY:

Adopted: 03/15/99 Revision Date(s): 06-16-14 Formerly: 6.87
