Community Relations

Use of Tobacco, Nicotine Products and Delivery Devices

The Board of Directors recognizes that to protect students from exposure to the addictive substance of nicotine, employees and officers of the school district, and all members of the community, have an obligation as role models to refrain from use of tobacco products and delivery devices on school property at all times. Tobacco products and delivery devices include, but are not limited to cigarettes, cigars, snuff, smoking tobacco, smokeless tobacco, nicotine, electronic smoking/vapor devices, and vapor products, non-prescribed inhalers, nicotine delivery devices or chemicals that are not FDA-approved to help people quit using tobacco, devices that produce the same flavor or physical effect of nicotine substances; and any other smoking equipment, device, material or innovation.

Any use of such products and delivery devices by staff, students, visitors and community members will be prohibited on all school district property, including all district buildings, grounds and district-owned vehicles, and within five hundred feet of schools. Possession by or distribution of tobacco products to any person under twenty-one years of age is prohibited.

The use of Federal Drug Administration (FDA) approved nicotine replacement therapy in the form of a nicotine patch, gum or lozenge is permitted. However, students and employees must follow applicable policies regarding use of medication at school.

Notices advising students, district employees and community members of this policy will be posted in appropriate locations in all district buildings and at other district facilities as determined by the superintendent and will be included in the employee and student handbooks. Employees and students are subject to discipline for violations of this policy, and school district employees are responsible for the enforcement of the policy.

Cross References:

- Board Policy 3200  Student Rights and Responsibilities
- Board Policy 3241  Student Discipline
- Board Policy 3416  Medication at School
- Board Policy 5201  Drug-Free Schools, Community and Workplace
- Board Policy 5280  Separation from Employment

Legal References:

- RCW 28A.210.270  Public and private schools - Administration of medication Immunity from liability - Discontinuance, procedure.
- RCW 28A.210.310  Prohibition on use of tobacco products on school property
- Chapter 70.155  RCW Tobacco - Access to Minors

Management Resources:

- Policy News, October 2019
- Policy News, July 2016
- Policy News, October 2010  Electronic Cigarettes
- Policy News, December 2010  Addressing the Use of “Electronic” Cigarettes
- Policy News, February 2014
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