

Smoking/Vaping and the Use of Smokeless Tobacco Products

-POLICY-

The Board of Education recognizes the harmful effects of smoking and the use of smokeless tobacco products on health. In the case of smoking, it can be harmful to both the smoker as well as the non-smoker who is exposed to second-hand smoke. District personnel can play an active part in discouraging students from the use of tobacco products through appropriate instruction and by example.

There is to be no smoking, no vaping, nor use of smokeless tobacco including electronic cigarettes, and/or other products that simulate the act of using tobacco products in school district buildings, on school grounds or any other school property, including district vehicles or at school sponsored functions and/or events.

-REGULATIONS-

1. In accordance with the Tobacco and Vapour Products Control Act, the following definitions apply to this policy and regulations:
 - a) “activated e-cigarette” means an e-cigarette in which an e-substance is being vapourized;
 - b) “e-cigarette” means the following:
 - i. a product or device, whether or not it resembles a cigarette, containing an electronic or battery-powered heating element capable of vapourizing an e-substance for inhalation or release into the air;
 - ii. a prescribed product or device similar in nature or use to a product or device described in subparagraph a);
 - c) “e-substance” means a solid, liquid or gas that:
 - i. on being heated, produces a vapour for use in an e-cigarette, regardless of whether the solid, liquid or gas contains nicotine; and
 - ii. is not a controlled substance within the meaning of the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (Canada);
 - d) “tobacco” means tobacco leaves or products produced from tobacco in any form or for any use;
 - e) “vapour product” means the following:
 - i. an e-cigarette;
 - ii. an e-substance;
 - iii. a cartridge for, or a component of, an e-cigarette.

2. The Principal or designate will post “No Smoking/Vaping or Use of Smokeless Tobacco Products” signs in appropriate places so the public can be made aware of this policy upon entering school property.
3. The Principal will advise students, parents, and the public annually in a newsletter and in the school handbook (where applicable) of the “Smoking/Vaping and the Use of Smokeless Tobacco Products” policy.
4. Any student selling or who has sold tobacco or vapour products or violates this policy during anytime the school has or had jurisdiction over the behavior of the student, will be disciplined in accordance with the school code of conduct and discipline procedures.
5. Students found to be in possession of tobacco products, smokeless tobacco products, electronic cigarettes or other related paraphernalia in school district buildings, on school grounds or any other school property, including district vehicles or at school sponsored functions and/or events will be responded to in accordance with the school code of conduct and discipline procedures.
6. Special circumstances may emerge where tobacco products on school property or in the school building may be authorized by the Principal or designate.
 - a) Special circumstances include but are not limited to: ceremonial activities or special events held on school property or in school buildings. Examples of special circumstances could include a First Nations Pipe ceremony, a ceremonial smudge, or a community celebration.
 - b) Designated areas for special circumstances must be limited and be only those areas identified by the Principal or designate as being appropriate for the special circumstances.