

The board of education promotes the health and safety of all students and staff and the cleanliness of all school facilities. The board believes that the use of tobacco products on school grounds, in school buildings and facilities, on school property or at school-related or school-sponsored events is detrimental to the health and safety of students, staff and school visitors. To this end, the board adopts this 100 percent tobacco free policy and prohibits or restricts smoking and the use of tobacco products as follows. For the purposes of this policy, the term “tobacco product” means any product that contains tobacco and is intended for human consumption, including all lighted and smokeless tobacco products. In accordance with Senate Bill 1086/State Law 2007-236 this policy is effective August 1, 2008.

1. All persons, including school district personnel, volunteers, contractors, other persons performing services or activities on behalf of the school district, students and visitors, are prohibited from using any tobacco products at any time (1) in any school building, in any school facility, in any school vehicle, on school grounds or on any school property, owned, leased, borrowed or otherwise used by the school district for school purposes or (2) at any school-sponsored or school-related activity, including athletic events, on or off school grounds, except for the use of tobacco products for instructional or research purposes as provided below.
2. In addition, school district employees , school volunteers, contractors or other persons performing services on behalf of the school district also are prohibited from using tobacco products at any other time while on duty and in the presence of students, either on or off school grounds.
3. Nothing in this policy prohibits the use of tobacco products for an instructional or research activity conducted in a school building, provided such activity is conducted or supervised by a faculty member and the activity does not include smoking, chewing or otherwise ingesting tobacco.
4. The administration will consult with the county health department and other appropriate organizations to provide employees with information and access to support systems and programs to encourage employees to abstain from the use of tobacco products. The school district may, from time to time, provide free non-smoking programs and services to be offered to employees in the schools, after the regular school day.
5. School personnel will be provided notice of this policy through personnel handbooks or other means identified by the principal. In addition, the principal will post signs in a manner and location that adequately notify staff, students and visitors about the 100 percent tobacco-free schools policy.
6. All school personnel are required to adhere to and enforce this policy and other policies, rules or regulations addressing the use of tobacco products.

Legal References: 20 U.S.C. 6081 - 6084; Pro- Children Act of 1994; G.S. 14-313; 115C-47(18), -407; 143-597, 601

Adopted: September 10, 2007