

### **SMOKE FREE SCHOOLS**

Comprehensive tobacco-free policies have been proven to reduce tobacco use, increase quitting and, most importantly in K-12 schools, they have been proven to reduce initiation of smoking. In addition, workplace productivity is increased and absenteeism is decreased among non-smokers as compared to smokers.

This policy is critical to model behavior which discourages staff and visitors from smoking in schools and throughout communities. It has been agreed upon by the State of Ohio and other local and state agencies that comprehensive 100% Tobacco-Free K-12 School Policies are essential in protecting people from the harmful effects of smoking and secondhand smoke.

This policy shall be in effect at all times, 24/7/365.

Educational reinforcement of this policy shall be provided to staff via PublicSchoolWORKS.

Communication of this policy shall be via student handbooks and signage at district facilities.

Employees who violate this policy will be subject to progressive discipline. Visitors who violate this policy may be removed from school grounds.

For purposes of this policy, “smoking” shall mean inhaling, exhaling, burning, or carrying any lighted cigar, cigarette, pipe, or other lighted smoking device for burning tobacco or any other plant. “Use of tobacco” shall mean all uses of tobacco, including a cigar, cigarette, pipe, snuff or any other matter or substances that contain tobacco.

The Board prohibits smoking and the use of tobacco in any enclosed area including classrooms, storage areas, restrooms, stairways, or vehicles; on school grounds; or at any school-sponsored activity.

The Board also prohibits the use of any alternative nicotine product, including electronic, vapor, or other substitute forms of cigarettes in any enclosed area including classrooms, storage areas, restrooms, stairways, or vehicles, on school grounds or at any school-sponsored activity.

LEGAL REFS: O.R.C. §§3313.751, 3794.02, 3794.06  
20 U.S.C. §7183

Adopted: September 17, 2018