



24/7 School Policy Proposal

Tobacco Use Facts

- Smoking has been identified as the number one health problem in the United States. It is the leading cause of premature death, disease, and chronic disability in our country.
- Smoking can be hazardous to health for both smokers and non-smokers. For smokers, it can contribute to heart attack, stroke, high blood pressure, emphysema, and several forms of cancer. Non-smokers can be affected by breathing the toxic products that tobacco smoke adds to the air. The use of snuff and chewing tobacco can cause gum disease and oral and gastric cancers.
- Thousands of Oklahoma adolescents begin smoking each year. The majority go on to become regular, adult smokers.
- In Oklahoma tobacco causes the premature death of about 5,800 persons each year (or on average, 16 per day)
- Currently 1 in 4 Oklahoma adults are smokers
- 2 Out of 3 adult smokers report that they are seriously thinking about quitting
- Currently, 15% of Oklahoma youth in grades 6-8 and 33% of youth in grades 9-12 currently use **some form** of tobacco products. Half of these youth indicate they would like to quit.

Q & A

How many human carcinogens do cigarettes have?

- At least 60

How many chemicals does tobacco smoke contain?

- Over 4,000

Every day, how many kids become addicted to tobacco products?

- 3,000

1 can of dip has the same nicotine (a highly addictive chemical drug) as how many cigarettes?

- 80 – 4 packs- An average amt. of dip or chew, held in the mouth for 30 minutes, has as much nicotine as smoking 4 cigarettes.

What is the average age that a teen begins using tobacco?

- 13 years of age

Benefits of a 24/7 Tobacco-Free School

1. Provides positive role modeling by adult employees and visitors.
2. Reduces children's observation of tobacco use and takes a firm stand against it.
3. Supports prevention messages delivered in classrooms by sending clear, consistent non-use messages.
4. Protects children from a dangerous drug (nicotine). Tobacco use is not just a "bad habit;" it is a powerful addiction.
5. Prepares students for the reality of smoke-free workplaces.
6. Provides a safe environment for students, staff, and visitors by reducing exposure to environmental tobacco smoke.
7. Proactively protects schools from unnecessary risk of future liability by protecting smoking on school premises.
8. Reduces the risk of fires due to "smoking materials".

Schools create powerful environments for promoting non-tobacco norms.

Is it legal to have a 24/7 policy?

- In Nov. of 2000, the *Smoking in Public Act* established a minimum guideline for schools regarding tobacco use. The minimum is that tobacco in any form cannot be used anywhere on school grounds during the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., during the school session. Or when class or any program established for students is in session. (Oklahoma Statutes Title 63, section 1-1523.B.1)
- In Oklahoma, preemption exists, which is a mechanism that **disallows** local governments from enacting ordinances that are different from state law. However, schools are EXEMPT from preemption, which means that they are free to make their own policies.

Schools within 60 mile radius WITH 24/7:

Leflore County- Poteau

Latimer County- Panola

Haskell County-Kinta

Pittsburg County- Quinton

Savanna

Hartshorne

Krebs

McAlester

Haileyville

Pushmataha County-Clayton

Moyers

Antlers

Nashoba

Schools within 60 mile radius without 24/7:

Leflore County-Talihina

Albion

Bokoshe

Panama

Hodgen

Heavener

Howe

Wister

Leflore

Whitesboro

Shady Point

Cameron

McCurtain County-Smithville

Battiest

Haskell County-McCurtain

Stigler

Latimer County-Fanshawe

Red Oak

Wilburton

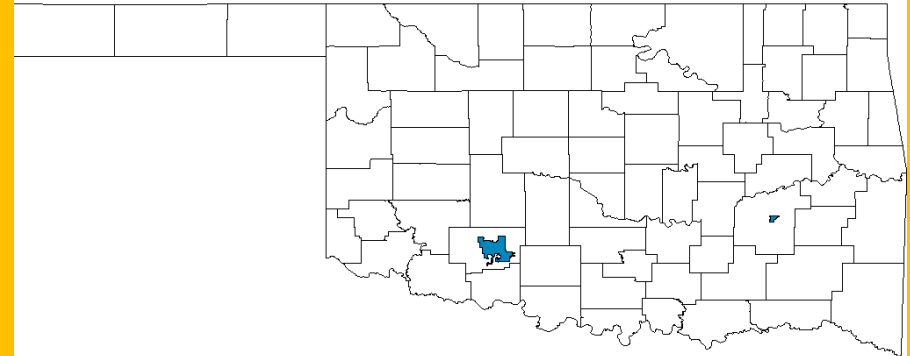
Buffalo Valley

Pushmataha County-Tuskahoma

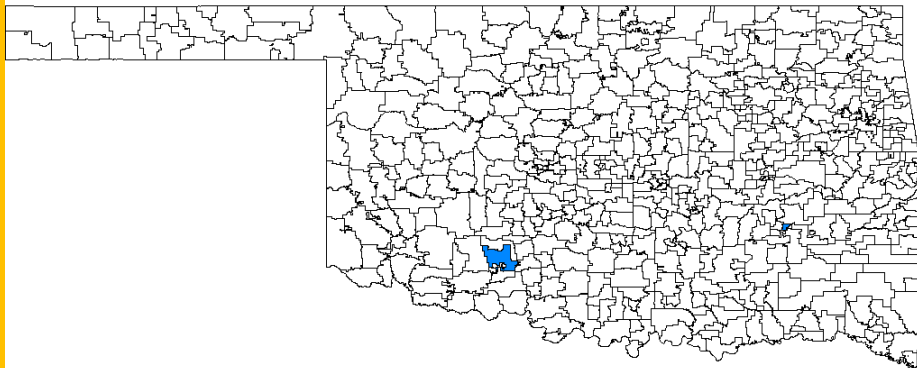
Policy Adoption

School Year 1999-2000

County



School
District

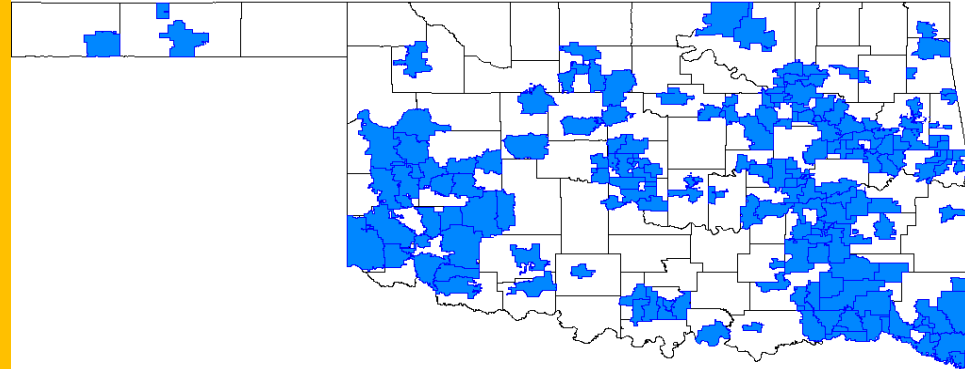


Policy Adoption

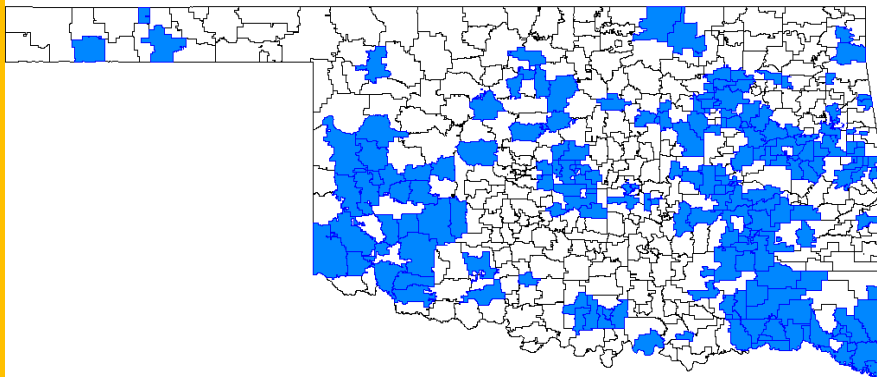
School Years 1999-2010*

Currently 183 schools have adopted 24/7 policy. Most larger schools are 24/7 which means approx. 65% of students attend a 24/7 school.

county



School district



* Through May 2010

TOBACCO USE PROHIBITED

SAMPLE POLICY

The Talihina Board of Education recognizes that the use of tobacco has been shown to be linked to illnesses and disabilities and that federal and state law prohibits smoking in any indoor facility, or the grounds thereof, which is used to provide educational services to children.

Therefore, smoking, chewing or any other use of tobacco, including tobacco simulation products, by staff, students, vendors, and members of the public is prohibited on, in or upon any school property. **It is the intent of this policy to prohibit tobacco use of any kind on school property 24 hours per day, seven days per week, 365 days per year.**

1. "School property" is defined as all property owned, leased, rented or otherwise used by any school in this district including but not limited to the following:
 - A. All interior portions of any building or other structure used for instruction, administration, support services, maintenance, or storage. The term shall not apply to buildings used primarily as residences, i.e., teacherages.
 - B. All school grounds over which the school exercises control including areas surrounding any building, playgrounds, athletic fields, recreation areas, and parking areas.
 - C. All vehicles used by the district for transporting students, staff, visitors, or other persons.
2. "Tobacco" is defined as cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, and all other kinds and forms of tobacco prepared in such manner to be suitable for chewing, smoking or both, and includes cloves or any other product packaged for smoking.
3. "Use" is defined as lighting, chewing, inhaling, or smoking any tobacco as defined within this policy. Smoking simulation devices/products are also included.
4. "Staff" includes, but is not limited to, full-time, part-time, and contract employees.

Signs will be posted in prominent places on school property to notify the public that smoking or other use of tobacco products is prohibited **24 hours per day, seven days per week, 365 days per year.**

Students are also prohibited from possessing tobacco on, in, or upon any school property. If students are found to be carrying cigarettes or other tobacco products, the tobacco product will be confiscated.

Employees are warned that violation of this policy may lead to dismissal action. Patrons who violate this policy will be asked to leave the school premises. Students violating this policy will be disciplined.

School Responsibilities

- Review and approve policy
- Coordinate with CNHCC staff placement of signage
- Post signage
- Announce at school events
- Newspaper announcement (free PSA)

Choctaw Nation REACH US Responsibilities

- Review and revise policy or assist/provide wording for policy
- Purchase all signs
- Purchase promotional items for community awareness of 24/7 status (ex. footballs, basketballs, mini pom poms, poncho's, boom stix, megaphones etc.)
- Organize youth to promote awareness of 24/7 at events (palm cards, info. booths etc.)
- Organization and implementation of tobacco prevention school program (SWAT, TAR WARS etc.)

CONCERNS

Compliance

- Continue to promote and make people aware and compliance will happen with most people. If people are aware it is usually self-enforcing.
(Remember when seat belts first became law?)
- Occasional positive verbal reminders from “those in leadership positions”.
- Obtain youth support to assist with promotion

Will make citizens mad

- 2004 Oklahoma tobacco survey which asked if Tobacco use by adults on school grounds or at any school event should **NOT** be allowed: 63% strongly agreed, 28% agreed, 8% disagreed and 2% strongly agreed. Thus, the majority of the people do not think tobacco should be allowed on school grounds at all.

**Talihina High School Football
2010**

7:30 Kickoff
**Homecoming*

Date	Opponent(s)	Place
August 19 24/7 school	Quinton (Scrimmage)	There
August 27 24/7 school	Hugo (Scrimmage)	Home
September 3 24/7 school	Haileyville	Home
September 10 24/7 school	Gore	Home
September 17 24/7 school	Sallisaw Central	Away
September 24 24/7 school	*Antlers	Home
October 1	Panama	Away
October 8	Pocola	Home
October 15	Heavener	Away
October 21	Wilburton	Home
October 29 24/7 school	Hartshorne	Away
November 5	Vian	Home

*KIDS INHERIT AND ARE SOCIALIZED INTO THE
NORMS OF THEIR COMMUNITY*

24/7 policy proposal (newspaper article)

At the monthly School board meeting on Sept. 7, 2010, the Talihina school board will be voting on a 24/7 tobacco policy, which was proposed by the Choctaw Nation REACH US/Wellness Dept. A 24/7 policy would mean no tobacco, of any type, would be allowed on school grounds, including sports complexes at any time. Currently 183 school districts have passed a 24/7 policy. The purpose for the policy is to reduce children's observation of tobacco use. Currently the national average that a child begins using tobacco is 13 years of age. Middle school and high school years are critical in determining whether or not an individual becomes a smoker for life. A 24/7 tobacco-free environment provides genuine opportunity for adults to serve as positive role models for not using tobacco. A 24/7 tobacco-free school policy is not about **whether** adults use tobacco, but **where** they use tobacco. It is about protecting students from future addiction, health problems and supporting a safe school climate for all students, staff and visitors. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Teresa Davis @ 567-7000 ext.6044 or Mr. Lockhart @ 567-2259.