



S.W.A.T.- Students Working Against Tobacco is a teen-driven movement that unites students across the state of Oklahoma to educate and inform them about the dangers of tobacco usage. The goals of S.W.A.T are to reduce youth tobacco use, involve and empower youth on making better, informed choices, de-glamorize tobacco use, and reduce youth exposure to secondhand smoke. In 2007, Wilson Public Schools became the second school district in Carter County to become a 24/7 Tobacco-Free school district. This means that our 24/7 policy states that tobacco in any form will not be used by anyone, anywhere, anytime on school property. This policy covers all school-sponsored events including outdoor events. This policy extends to hours after regular class schedules, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Out of 521 school districts in Oklahoma, Wilson is one of 179 school districts that have a 24/7 tobacco-free campus/policy in our state. Every year, tobacco use is the number one cause of preventable death in Oklahoma and 6000 people in our state die from the use of tobacco products- more than those who die from AIDS, alcohol, traffic accidents, illegal drugs, murder, and suicide combined and another 100,000 Oklahomans suffer from tobacco-caused diseases. Second-hand smoke contains over 4000 chemicals with more than 250 that are known toxic &/or carcinogenic and it also kills an estimated 700 Oklahomans each year. Nearly 13,000 Oklahoma kids under the age of 18 will become new smokers each year. Tobacco use costs Oklahomans \$2.7 billion annually in medical expenses and lost productivity or an average cost of \$750 for every person in our state. S.W.A.T. works in conjunction with the Carter County Turning Point Tobacco Use Prevention Coalition. The contact number for more information is (580) 226-1838. For more information about S.W.A.T., please go to www.okswat.com. Other websites with information about the dangers of tobacco usage are: www.tobaccodocuments.org, www.legacy.library.ucsf.edu and www.BreatheEasy.com.