

_____ **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

_____ **Public Schools**

TOBACCO USE REGULATION

Purpose

Because children are especially susceptible to secondhand smoke exposure and their lungs are still developing. More than 9 million children are exposed to secondhand smoke, which causes more than 300,000 lung infections, such as bronchitis and pneumonia and more likely to develop asthma.

Nearly 8.6 million children in the United States have Asthma (60,000 in Oklahoma) accounting for 10 million lost school days annually and the leading cause of school absenteeism to chronic conditions.

_____ Public Schools wants to provide a safe and healthy environment for our students, staff, and community and set the proper example for our students.

24/7 Tobacco Policy

The _____ Public Schools Board of Education is committed to providing a healthy and productive environment for all persons using the school facilities. The Board of Education also recognizes that tobacco use has been shown to be linked to illnesses and disability and that federal law prohibits smoking in any indoor facility or the grounds thereof, which is used to provide educational services to children. This policy is intended to improve the health and safety of all individuals using the schools.

Therefore, effective _____, 2005, smoking, chewing, or any other use of tobacco by staff, students, and members of the public is prohibited on, in or upon any school property at all times including non-school hours.

School Property Defined

"School Property" is defined as all property owned, leased, rented, or otherwise used by any school in the district. This includes playgrounds, all athletic facilities, all maintenance building, school sites and campuses, parking lots, and all school vehicles.

This regulation applies to employees of the school district, students, and visitors. This regulation applies to all public functions (ballgames, concerts, etc.), extra-curricular activities and any outside agency using the district's facilities. **This is in effect 24 hours per day, seven days per week.**

Tobacco

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 inhaling, dipping, chewing, or smoking, and includes cloves or any other product packaged for smoking.

All students, faculty, staff and visitors are responsible for adhering to this policy.

Enforcement

The success of this regulation will depend upon the thoughtfulness, consideration, and cooperation of smokers and non-smokers. All individuals on school premises share in the responsibility for adhering to and enforcing this regulation. All students will receive instruction on avoiding tobacco use. Each site administrator will take appropriate steps to enforce the regulation.

Students found in violation of the policy will be subject to discipline procedures as stated in the Student Handbook.

Staff members who violate the regulation shall be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with procedures as defined in the employee handbook.

Visitors who violate the policy shall be subject to a verbal request to the individual(s) to stop. If the person refuses to stop, the individual will be requested to leave. If the person refuses to leave, they will be referred to the appropriate authorities.

The district will not accept donations of gifts, money, or materials from the tobacco industry. This district will not participate in any type of services that are funded by the tobacco industry.