

TOBACCO FREE ENVIRONMENT

Background

The District concurs with evidence that smoking is a severe threat to the current and future health of all individuals. The District, through enhanced education programs, is committed to promoting the continued health and well being of all of its students and staff members.

The District continues to value positive role-modeling by teachers, staff and parents, but recognizes that some people will choose to smoke and seeks their cooperation in the implementation of this administrative procedure.

The District also recognizes that the *Tobacco Control Act* S.B.C. 2007, c.12 prohibits smoking, holding lighted tobacco or other tobacco use on school property except for the purposes outlined in section 2.2(3) of the *Tobacco Control Act* S.B.C. 2007, c.12.

Procedures

1. Tobacco means tobacco leaves or products produced from tobacco in any form or for any use.
2. All school property is designated "tobacco free". Therefore, every person, including a student, employee or visitor, is prohibited from smoking, using tobacco of any kind, or holding lighted tobacco on school property at any time, including non-school hours.
3. School property includes all property owned or leased by, or operated under the authority of the board, and includes the maintenance yard, school board office property and district owned or district leased vehicles.
4. Privately owned or privately leased vehicles driven by District employees when used for the purpose of transporting students or when used for the purposes of delivering educational programs or other learning programs, shall be "tobacco free".
5. The District prohibits smoking in private vehicles which are parked on or traveling on school property owned or leased by, or operated under the authority of the board.
6. Schools will advise volunteer drivers to refrain from smoking while transporting students on school events.
7. The District shall post appropriate signage to inform parents and other visitors of this administrative procedure.
8. Schools shall inform parents, students, employees and the community of this administrative procedure (i.e. via parent newsletters, school agenda books, school web-sites, etc.).
9. Intervention and education programs shall incorporate many avenues of information regarding smoking cessation including, but not limited to, the Simon Fraser Health Unit, the B.C. Lung Association, the Canadian Cancer Society, etc. Programs shall begin in elementary schools.

10. Enforcement of this administrative procedure with students shall attempt to be educational.
11. Staff who violate this administrative procedure may face disciplinary action.
12. Visitors who violate this administrative procedure will be told to refrain from the conduct or leave the premises.

Reference: Section 65, 85, School Act
Tobacco Control Act, S.B.C. 2007, c.12

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