Use of Tobacco and Nicotine Products and Delivery Devices

The board of directors recognizes that to protect students from exposure to the addictive substance of nicotine, employees and officers of the school district, and all members of the community, have an obligation as role models to refrain from use of tobacco products and delivery devices on school property at all times. Tobacco products and delivery devices include, but are not limited to cigarettes, cigars, snuff, smoking tobacco, smokeless tobacco, nicotine, electronic smoking/vapor devices, "vapor pens," non-prescribed inhalers, nicotine delivering devices or chemicals that are not FDA-approved to help people quit using tobacco, devices that produce the same flavor or physical effect of nicotine substances and any other smoking equipment, device, material or innovation.

Any use of such products and delivery devices by staff, students, visitors and community members will be prohibited on school district property. Possession by or distribution of tobacco products to minors is prohibited. This will include all district buildings, grounds and district-owned vehicles.

The use of Federal Drug Administration (FDA) approved nicotine replacement therapy in the form of a nicotine patch, gum or lozenge is permitted. However, students and employees must follow applicable policies regarding use of medication at school.

Notices advising students, district employees and community members of this policy will be posted in appropriate locations in all district buildings and at other district facilities as determined by the superintendent and will be included in the employee and student handbooks. Employees and students are subject to discipline for violations of this policy, and school district employees are responsible for the enforcement of the policy.

Cross References:  
Policy 3200 Rights and Responsibilities  
Policy 3241 Classroom Management, Discipline and Corrective Actions  
Policy 3416 Medication at School  
Policy 5201 Drug-Free Schools, Community and Workplace  
Policy 5280 Termination of Employment

Legal References:  
RCW 28A.210.260 Public and private schools — Administration of medication — Conditions  
RCW 28A.210.270 Public and private schools — Administration of medication — Immunity from liability — Discontinuance, procedure  
RCW 28A.210.310 Prohibition on use of tobacco products on school property  
RCW 70.155.080 Purchasing, obtaining or possessing tobacco by persons under 18 — Civil infraction — Jurisdiction

Management Resources:  
Policy and Legal News, February 2014 Tobacco and Nicotine Substances update to address vapor devices
Policy No. 4215
Community Relations

Policy News, December 2010
Addressing the Use of “Electronic” Cigarettes

Policy News, October 2010
Electronic Cigarettes

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