COMMUNITY RELATIONS

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 and at school activities 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 delivery 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 and at school activities. 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 Reference:
- Policy 3200: Student Rights and Responsibilities
- Policy 3416: Medication at School
- Policy 5201: Drug-Free Schools, Community and Workplace
- Policy 5280: Termination of Employment

Legal References:
- RCW 28A.210.310: Prohibition on use of tobacco products on school property
- RCW 28A.210.260: Public and private schools-Administration of medication-conditions
- RCW 70.155.080: Purchasing, obtaining or possessing tobacco by persons under 18 – Civil infraction

Management Resources:
- Policy and Legal News, February 2014: Use of Tobacco and Nicotine Substances
- Policy News, October 2010: policy updated to address vapor devices
- Policy News, Dec 2010: Electronic Cigarettes
- Addressing the use of “Electronic” Cigarettes

Date: 4/20/89; 12/20/99; 1/13/03; 11/24/03; 1/23/06; 1/24/11; 4/27/15