

CHAPTER 2.00 - SCHOOL BOARD GOVERNANCE AND ORGANIZATION

TOBACCO USE IN DISTRICT FACILITIES/ TOBACCO FREE ENVIRONMENT

2.90

I. Purpose

The School Board of Santa Rosa County recognizes that the use of tobacco products is a health, safety, and environmental hazard for students, employees, parents, visitors, and school facilities. The School Board believes that the use of tobacco products on school grounds, in school buildings and facilities, on school property, in district-owned vehicles or at school-related or school-sponsored events is detrimental to the health and safety of students, employees, and visitors. Smoking and other tobacco products contain carcinogens, are detrimental to health, and a significant contributor to medical issues and death for users and non-users. The School Board acknowledges that adult staff and visitors serve as role models for students, and therefore need to promote a district free from tobacco. Thus, the purpose of this policy is to establish that the Santa Rosa County School District maintains a tobacco-free environment, to provide notification to the public and to District employees and students, to provide education and resources to tobacco users, to provide an explanation of the disciplinary action that will be taken with those that abuse the policy and to provide an effective date of the policy.

II. Applicability of Policy

This policy applies to students, employees, volunteers, parents, spectators, contracted vendors, and all visitors.

III. Definitions

For the purposes of this policy, the following definitions shall apply.

- a. At any time means during normal school and non-school hours: 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year.
- b. Electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) means any oral device that provides a vapor of liquid nicotine, lobelia, and/or other substance, and the use of inhalation of which simulates smoking. The term shall include any such devices, whether

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they are manufactured, distributed, marketed or sold as e-cigarettes, e-cigars, e-pipes or any other product name or descriptor.

- c. Tobacco product is any lighted or unlighted cigarette, cigar, clove cigarette, cigarillo, blunt, bidi, pipe, hookah, and any other smoking product, and any smokeless or spitless tobacco also known as dip, chew, snuff, snus, orbs, and strips, sticks or electronic cigarettes in any form.
- d. Off-campus, school-sponsored event means any event sponsored by the school or school district that is not on school property, including but not limited to, sporting events, day camps, field trips, seminars, dances, or theatrical productions.

IV. Policy Statement

No student, employee, volunteer, contractor or school visitor is permitted to use tobacco products of any kind or e-cigarettes at any time, as defined in paragraph III. a. above and as otherwise addressed in paragraph I above:

- a. In any building, facility, or vehicle that is owned, leased, or rented by the District.
- b. On any district-owned, leased, rented, or chartered grounds and property – including all schools, district offices, athletic fields, practice fields, playgrounds, parking lots, administrative offices, maintenance, transportation areas, etc.
- c. At any off-campus, school-sponsored event.

V. Notification of Policy and Implementation- Appropriate signage will be posted in a manner and location on and surrounding all District property that adequately notify employees, students, parents, visitors, and the public of this policy. Communication via announcements, memos, presentations, meetings, and letters will also be utilized.

VI. Tobacco Promotion and Sponsorship Prohibited- Tobacco advertising is prohibited on school grounds, in all school-sponsored publications, and at all school-sponsored events in accordance with Policy 9.40. Sponsorships, gifts, grants and tobacco prevention materials provided by tobacco companies or their subsidiaries are prohibited.

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VII. Educational and Cessation Programs

- a. Prevention Education for Students- The administration will consult with Student Services, Santa Rosa County Health Department, Risk Management, American Lung Association and other appropriate health organizations to identify and provide programs or opportunities for students to gain a greater understanding of the health hazards of tobacco use and the impact of tobacco use as it relates to providing a safe, orderly, clean, and inviting school environment.
- b. Cessation Support Programs- The administration will consult with Student Services, Santa Rosa County Health department, Risk Management, American Lung Association and other appropriate health organizations to provide students and employees with information and access to support systems, tobacco use cessation programs, and services to encourage them to abstain from the use of tobacco products.

VIII. Responsibility of School Administrators

- a. Communicate this policy verbally to students, employees, family members, volunteers, and visitors, at school events, through signage, and school handbooks, and as stated in Policy 5.30+.
- b. Treat violators who are students or employees with disciplinary actions consistent with School Board policies.
- c. Ensure that family members, volunteers or visitors who violate the policy discontinue using the tobacco product or e-cigarette or leave the premises. Law enforcement officers may be contacted to escort the person off the premises or cite the person for trespassing if the person refuses to leave the school property.
- d. Include the expectation that the prohibition will be enforced in contracts with outside groups who use the school building and other facilities.

IX. Disciplinary Actions for Student or Employee Violators

- a. Students- Consequences for students engaging in the prohibited behavior will be provided in accordance with the school's Code of Student Conduct and Policy 5.30.

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- b. Consequences for employees who violate the tobacco use policy will be in accordance with the District's Human Resources Procedures Manual and/or the District's Employee Code of Ethics of the Education Profession in Florida and the Principles of Professional Conduct for the Education Profession in Florida, as outlined in Policy 6.27.
- c. Effective Date of Policy- This policy shall take effect in full on March 13, 2014.
- d. Policy Evaluation- This policy shall be assessed by the school district and the school Student Services department annually to determine whether policies, policy enforcement, communication, education, staff training, and cessation programs are effective. Policies and programs shall be updated and revised accordingly.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 1001.41, 1001.42, F.S.

LAW(S) IMPLEMENTED: 386.201 – 386.209, 1001.43, F.S.

HISTORY: ADOPTED: 07/01/2002

REVISION DATE(S): 07/10/2003; 03/13/2014

FORMERLY: 5.22, 9.04