

TOBACCO USE AND POSSESSION ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE

The purpose of the following administrative procedure is to effectuate the mandates imposed by the various federal and state laws in addition to this Board's "Tobacco Use and Possession" policy. It also applies to electronic cigarettes and other devices designated to deliver nicotine through inhalation or "vaping," or used to simulate smoking.

I. PROHIBITED CONDUCT

A. Students

The use, possession, sale, dispensing or distribution of tobacco products by all students is prohibited in school buildings and other school unit facilities, on school buses, in school owned or leased vehicles, and on school grounds during school-sponsored events and at all other times.

B. Employees and All Other Persons

The use of tobacco products by employees and all other persons is prohibited in school buildings and other school unit facilities, on school buses, in school owned or leased vehicles, and on school grounds during school-sponsored events and at all other times. In addition, employees and all other persons are strictly prohibited, under law and this Board's policy/administrative procedure, from selling, dispensing or distributing tobacco products to students.

II. ENFORCEMENT

In order to enforce the tobacco products policy, the following guidelines shall be utilized by the Principal of a school in which prohibited conduct occurs. The Principal shall report any violations of this policy/procedure, as promptly as practicable, to the Superintendent.

A. Student Violations

The Superintendent shall develop age-appropriate disciplinary guidelines for students violating this policy/administrative procedure, which shall be included in the student handbook.

B. Student Referral to Law Enforcement Agency

The Superintendent or his/her designee reserves the right to refer students in any grade to a law enforcement agency, on a case-by-case basis, as he/she may deem necessary.

However, the Superintendent/designee shall refer to a law enforcement agency any student reasonably suspected of selling, dispensing or distributing tobacco products.

C. All Other Persons in Violation

All other persons violating this policy, e.g., employees, visitors, shall be immediately directed to cease the behavior that is in violation of this policy. In addition, all persons suspected of selling, distributing or in any way dispensing tobacco products to students shall be referred to law enforcement authorities.

Any employee violating this policy shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary measures.

III. NOTICES

The Board's policy and corresponding disciplinary actions for violations of this policy shall be printed in employee and student handbooks and on the RSU 68 website.

Legal References: 20 USC § 6081-6084 (Pro-Children Act of 1994)
 22 MRSA § 1578-B
 Me. PL 470 (An Act to Reduce Tobacco Use By Minors)

Adopted: April 2, 2013

Revised: December 14, 2015