

## Tobacco, Vaping and Cannabis Free Environment

### - POLICY -

The Board of Education recognizes that the use of tobacco/cannabis/vaping products is a health and safety hazard for students, employees, visitors and school facilities. The Board of Education is committed to promoting positive role models and a healthy learning and working environment. The Board also recognizes its legal obligation pursuant to federal and provincial legislation under the Tobacco and Vapor Products Control Act and the BC Cannabis Control and Licencing Act. As such, a person must not smoke or use tobacco/cannabis/e-cigarettes, or hold lighted tobacco/cannabis/activated e-cigarettes in or on school property.

### - REGULATIONS -

#### 1.0 DEFINITIONS

##### 1.1 **E-cigarette** – means the following:

- 1.1.1 A product or device, whether or not it resembles a cigarette, containing an electronic or battery-powered heating element capable of vaporizing an e-substance for inhalation or release into the air;
- 1.1.2 A prescribed product or device similar in nature or use of a product or device described in paragraph (a);

##### 1.2 **E-substance** means a solid, liquid or gas that:

- 1.2.1 on being heated, produces a Vapor for use in an e-cigarette regardless of whether the solid, liquid or gas contains nicotine, and
- 1.2.2 is not a controlled substance within the meaning of the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (Canada)*;

##### 1.3 **Activated e-cigarette** means an e-cigarette in which an e-substance is being vaporized;

##### 1.4 **Tobacco** means tobacco leaves or products produced from tobacco in any form or for any use;

##### 1.5 **Vapor product** means the following:

- 1.5.1 An e-cigarette;
  - 1.5.2 An e-substance;
  - 1.5.3 A cartridge for, or a component of, an e-cigarette.
- 1.6 Tobacco/cannabis/vaping use includes smoking, chewing, dipping, ingesting or any other use of tobacco/cannabis/vaping.
- 1.7 School district property refers to:
- 1.7.1 In any building, facility or vehicle owned, leased, rented or chartered by School District No. 85;
  - 1.7.2 On any school grounds and property – including athletic fields and parking lots – owned, leased, rented or chartered by School District No. 85;
  - 1.7.3 At any school sponsored or school related event, on or off School District No. 85 property; and
  - 1.7.4 On any public property neighbouring the school, which is within six (6) meters of doorways, open windows and/or intakes to the school.

## 2.0 PROHIBITION

- 2.1 The use of tobacco/vaping products/e-cigarettes or the consumption or smoking of cannabis products is prohibited on any School District No. 85 property.
- 2.2 The holding of a lighted tobacco or vaping product, an activated e-cigarette and/or any cannabis product is also prohibited on School District No. 85 property.
- 2.3 Any student selling or who has sold tobacco/vaping products/cannabis during anytime the school has or had jurisdiction of the behaviour of the student is in violation of this policy.
- 2.4 In addition, School District No. 85 employees, volunteers, contractors or other persons performing services on behalf of the school district are prohibited from using tobacco/cannabis/vaping products at any time while on duty and in the presence of students, either on or off school district property.

## 3.0 EXCEPTIONS

- 3.1** Tobacco/cannabis/vaping products may be included in instructional or research activities in public school buildings if the activity:
- 3.1.1** is conducted or supervised by the staff member overseeing the instruction or research;
  - 3.1.2** the activity does not include smoking, chewing or otherwise ingesting of tobacco/cannabis/vaping products; and
  - 3.1.3** does not directly expose either the student or staff to the health hazards of tobacco/cannabis/vaping.
- 3.2** This policy does not apply to the ceremonial use of tobacco in or on school property if the ceremonial use of tobacco is approved by the Board and is performed:
- 3.2.1** in relation to a traditional Aboriginal cultural activity; or
  - 3.2.2** by a prescribed group for a prescribed purpose and has been given authorization by the school's principal and aligns with this policy.

#### **4.0 AWARENESS**

- 4.1** Signs will be posted in a manner and location that adequately notifies students, staff and visitors about the Smoking, Vaping, and Cannabis Free Environment.
- 4.2** All schools shall include the school district and the school expectations regarding tobacco/vaping/e-cigarettes/cannabis in their Code of Conduct.
- 4.3** Schools will support health and preventative programs that warn students about the hazards of tobacco/vaping/cannabis. Schools will help students develop the ability to resist peer pressure, make decisions and use refusal and assertiveness skills to help prevent and avoid tobacco use.

#### **5.0 ENFORCEMENT**

- 5.1** Any student in violation of this policy will be disciplined in accordance with the district and school discipline policies.
- 5.2** Any employee or volunteer found to have violated this policy may be subject to disciplinary action.
- 5.3** Any contractor or other person performing services on behalf of the school district found to have violated this policy may be in breach of the agreement.
- 5.4** Any lessee found to have violated this policy may be in breach of the lease agreement.

- 5.5** Participants in community use activities found to have violated this policy may be prohibited from future community use rentals.