

SMOKING POLICY

Since the Board of Education is committed to maintaining and improving the health and well-being of all students and employees; because medical research shows that smoking poses a significant risk to the health of the smoker and the nonsmoker; and because the Board of Education accepts the educational principles that one teaches best by example, the Board of Education adopts the following policy for all students, employees and visitors.

-- Smoking using tobacco or tobacco products will not be permitted in the buildings or on the grounds of Regional School District No. 7 Public Schools by students or adults at any time.

Tobacco includes, but is not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, snuff, smoking tobacco, smokeless tobacco, nicotine delivering systems, vapor products, chemicals or devices that produce the same flavor or physical effect of nicotine substances; and any other tobacco or nicotine innovations.

Electronic nicotine delivery system means an electronic device that may be used to simulate smoking in the delivery of nicotine or other substance to a person inhaling from the device, and includes, but is not limited to, an electronic cigarette, electronic cigar, electronic cigarillo, electronic pipe or electronic hookah and any related device and any cartridge or other component of such device.

Vapor product means any product that employs a heating element, power source, electronic circuit or other electronic, chemical or mechanical means, regardless of shape or size, to produce a vapor that may or may not include nicotine, that is inhaled by the user of such product.

For students, possession of all smoking products, including cigarettes, chewing tobacco, lighters, and so forth, is prohibited on school grounds and will result in penalties as outlined in the administrative regulations to the policy.

Legal Reference: CGS 1-2b, as amended
Public Act 87-201

Revised/Approved 9/13/94; Revised/Approved 4/8/97
Revised/Approved 6/26/98; Revised/Approved 4/27/99
Reviewed 11/13/01; Reviewed/Renumbered/Approved 7/20/2010;
Revised/Approved 1/14/2015

Administrative Regulations to Policy 5131.61
Smoking

HIGH SCHOOL

I. STAFF

Violation of this policy will not be permitted by any employee, and may result in discipline from reprimand up to and including dismissal.

II. STUDENTS

Students who are observed or suspected of being in violation of this policy will be subject to discipline and fines as detailed below:

A student has violated our no smoking/ tobacco use policies if:

- Student has smoke or vaping juice breath.
- Student is in possession of a lit cigarette.
- Student is observed throwing a lit cigarette or concealing a vaping device.
- Student is found in an area where active smoking is occurring.
- Student is found in possession of smoking paraphernalia (cigarettes, lighters, etc.).
- Student is found in a lavatory stall with smoke rising above it.
- Student is found in presence of smoke when a staff member detected none prior to student entering the lavatory.

In addition, all of these issues may warrant a search of students in the area at the time.

Discipline and Fines

- A. First Offense: \$60.00 Fine (or equal to the going rate for a ticket by law enforcement at the time of violation).
Parents informed of violation
Three-hour Saturday Stop Smoking Class
Loss of common's privileges for five (5) school days
- B. Second Offense: \$60.00 Fine (or equal to the going rate for a ticket by law enforcement at the time of violation).
Parents informed of violation.
One day out of school suspension.
Loss of commons privileges for 10 school days.

Regional School District No. 7

Administrative Regulations to Policy 5131.61
Smoking (continued...)
HIGH SCHOOL (continued...)

- C. Third Offense: \$60.00 Fine (or equal to the going rate for a ticket by law enforcement at the time of violation).
Parents informed of violation.
Loss of common privileges for 20 school days.
Three day out-of-school suspension.
- D. Fourth or Subsequent Offense:
\$60.00 Fine (or equal to the going rate for a ticket by law enforcement at the time of violation).
Parents informed of violation.
Loss of all privileges for 10 weeks.
Ten day out-of-school suspension.
Mandatory hearing with the Superintendent to discuss possible hearing with the Board of Education in consideration of expulsion from school up to 180 days.

Any smoker/tobacco user will be encouraged to participate in a smoking cessation program, the cost of which may be reimbursed up to \$100. Such reimbursement is contingent upon the student's successful completion of the program as certified by the program director.

A student who has violated the school no smoking policy may have his/her fine eliminated if he/she successfully completes a smoke ending program within 90 calendar days of the smoking offense and provided that no additional violations occur from the time of the initial date of the violation.

Saturday Stop Smoking Class – Stop smoking classes will be periodically scheduled for selected Saturday mornings from 9:00 am until 12:00pm. During the session, students will participate in an educational program designed to increase awareness of issues related to teen-age smoking. A student who fails to comply with a directive to attend the stop smoking class will be considered insubordinate and will be suspended for one day, lose commons privileges for 10 school days, and be additionally fined for his/her proportional cost of the class.

All fines must be paid before a student will be allowed to participate in the junior or senior prom, senior picnic, graduation, or other significant class event.

Any money collected in fines will be deposited in a Student Activity Account and be used to support the smoke ending initiative, to purchase anti-smoking materials and to purchase cessation programs.

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Administrative Regulations to Policy 5131.61
Smoking (continued...)
HIGH SCHOOL (continued...)

Possession of all smoking products, including cigarettes, chewing tobacco, lighters, and so forth, is prohibited on school grounds and will result in penalties as listed above.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Discipline and Fines

- A. First Offense: \$60.00 Fine (or equal to going rate for a ticket by law)
Parents informed of violation.
- B. Second Offense: \$60.00 Fine (or equal to going rate for a ticket by law)
Parents informed of the violation
Three-hour Saturday Stop Smoking Class
- C. Third Offense: \$60.00 Fine (or equal to going rate for ticket by law)
Parents informed of violation
Two-Day In-School Suspension
- D. Fourth or Subsequent Offense:
\$60.00 Fine (or equal to going rate for ticket by law)
Parents informed of the violation
Five-Day Out-Of-School Suspension
Mandatory hearing with the Superintendent to discuss possible
hearing with Board of Education in consideration of expulsion
from school up to 180 days.