

TOBACCO-FREE SCHOOLS/TOBACCO-FREE WORKPLACE

Background

The Mt. Lebanon School District recognizes that tobacco/e-cigarette use on school property is a health and safety hazard which can have serious consequences for the smoker, nonsmoker and the safety of the District. By the passage of Act 128 of 2000, the Pennsylvania legislature banned the possession by students or use of any tobacco product on school grounds or school transportation by any person using or visiting school property at any time.

Objectives

This Tobacco-Free Schools policy is implemented for the following reasons:

- to further the goal of consistency among ongoing school programs directed against tobacco possession and use;
- to be part of a necessary regulatory scheme for students in the public schools;
- to provide role modeling efforts to direct students against smoking and tobacco use;
- to generate respect among students for school authority, thereby improving discipline by virtue of its application to District employees; and
- to reflect and emphasize the hazards of tobacco and/or e-cigarette use.

Definitions

Tobacco: includes a lighted or unlighted cigarette, cigar, pipe or other smoking products or material and smokeless tobacco product in any form.

Tobacco Use: is the use of Tobacco in any form, including, but not limited to, smoking or chewing.

Smokeless Tobacco Product: shall include, but not be limited to, any chewing tobacco, snuff, or similar smokeless tobacco product that is used, chewed, sniffed or ingested.

Electronic cigarette or E-cigarette: any oral device that provides a vapor of liquid nicotine, lobelia, and/or other substance, and the use or inhalation of which simulates smoking. The term shall include any such devices, whether they are manufactured, distributed, marketed or sold as e-cigarettes, e-cigars, e-pipes, hookah pens, or under any other product name or descriptor.

Policy

It is the policy of the District that;

1. Tobacco, and/or e-cigarette, use or possession by students is prohibited in school buildings; on buses, vans or other vehicles owned by, leased by or under the control of the District, on property owned by, leased by or under the control of the District; and at District sponsored events held off school premises.

2. Tobacco, and/or e-cigarette, use by any person other than a pupil is prohibited in school buildings and on buses, vans or other vehicles owned by, leased by or under the control of the District on property owned by, leased by or under the control of the District and at District sponsored events held off school premises.

Administrative Responsibility

The Administration shall annually notify students, parents and staff about the District's tobacco-free policy by publishing such policy in the Student Handbooks and in other communications as deemed appropriate. The Administration is responsible for enforcement of this policy. See also Policy JICG regarding student penalties for violations.

Communication

This policy shall be communicated to:

1. All District Staff
2. Students and Parents through Parent/Student Handbooks
3. Users of District facilities
4. The Mt. Lebanon Community

Adopted August 16, 2004
Revised October 17, 2016