

TOBACCO-FREE SCHOOLS/STAFF NO SMOKING/SMOKING

Code **GBED** Issued **10/19**

Purpose: To establish the basic structure for the tobacco-free schools.

The board believes that tobacco use and exposure to secondhand smoke (environmental tobacco smoke) are hazardous to the health of human beings, especially children. Therefore, the board affirms that one of the best methods of instruction is one that is provided within a 100 percent tobacco-free environment in order to ensure students and staff have access to the healthiest, most productive learning environment possible.

Goal

The goal of this policy is to provide a 100 percent tobacco-free, smoke-free environment for all students, staff, contract or other workers and visitors within all district facilities, vehicles and grounds. This includes any building, facility, and vehicle owned, operated, leased, rented, or chartered by the district and applies to all school-sponsored or school-related events, on or off school grounds by doing the following:

- Exhibiting healthy behavior for all students, staff, contract or other workers, visitors and the entire community
- Utilizing a proven and effective science-based tobacco use prevention curricula
- Providing access to cessation counseling or referral services for all students and staff

Procedures

- Prohibit the use and/or possession of all tobacco products or paraphernalia including, cigarettes, e-cigarettes, cigars, pipes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, and alternative nicotine product to include any vaping product, whether or not it contains nicotine, by all students, staff and visitors.
- Ensure that tobacco use prevention programs, as recommended by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, the South Carolina department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services and the South Carolina Department of Education, are an integral part of district substance abuse prevention efforts.
- Provide and/or refer to cessation services for students and staff.

Enforcement

The district will enforce this policy by determining appropriate disciplinary actions for violators (student, faculty, visitors) such as the following.

Students

- parent/legal guardian/administrator conferences
- mandatory enrollment in a tobacco prevention education program
- community service
- in-school suspension
- out-of-school suspension
- suspension from extracurricular activities

Staff

- verbal reprimands
- written notification placed in personnel file
- suspension
- mandatory enrollment in a tobacco education program
- voluntary enrollment in a cessation program

Contract or other workers

- verbal reprimand
- notification to contract employer
- removal from district property

Visitors

- verbal requests to leave school property
- forfeiture of any fee charged for admission
- prosecution for disorderly conduct after repeated offenses

Education and assistance

The district will not accept any contributions or gifts, money or materials from the tobacco industry. The district will not participate in any type of services that are funded by the tobacco industry. In addition, any gear, paraphernalia, clothing, etc., that advertises tobacco use or tobacco products will not be allowed on district grounds or in the possession of faculty, staff or students at district-sponsored events.

This policy will be communicated through a variety of efforts to educate students, staff, parents/legal guardians, contract and other workers, volunteers, visitors, and other members of the public.

(Also: GBED; Cf. JICG)

Adopted 6/2/97; Revised 11/5/12, 10/6/14, 10/7/19

Legal references:

- A. United States Code:
 1. 20 U.S.C . 6081 – Pro-Children Act of 1994.
- B. S.C. Code of Laws, 1976, as amended:
 1. Section 44-95-10 et seq. – Clean Indoor Air Act of 1990 and penalties for violations

2. Section 4-95-20 – Amends Clean Indoor Air Act of 1990 and allows boards to make school district facilities smoke-free
3. Section 16-17-490 – Contributing to the delinquency of a minor (school board rules and regulations may be exempt under certain circumstances).
4. Section 16-17-500 – Supplying minors with tobacco or cigarettes.
5. Section 59-67-150 – Qualifications of bus driver; drinking or smoking on bus.
6. Sections 16-17-500 and 501 – Youth Access to Tobacco Prevention Act of 2006.