

Tobacco Use by Staff Members

The Board of Education has a duty to protect and promote the health and well-being of all students and staff. The Board is acutely aware of the serious health risks associated with the use of tobacco products, both to users and non-users, and that most tobacco use begins by the age of 18. The Board recognizes that district personnel and school visitors serve as role models to students and, therefore, adopts this 100% Tobacco-Free School Policy to endorse a healthy lifestyle and prevent tobacco use.

For the purpose of this policy, "tobacco product" is defined to include any product that contains tobacco, is derived from tobacco, or contains nicotine (including synthetic), which is intended for human consumption, or is likely to be consumed, whether smoked, heated, vaporized, chewed, absorbed, dissolved, or ingested by any other means. The term "tobacco products" includes e-cigarettes, electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS), and other electronic smoking devices, regardless whether it contains nicotine, (including JUUL's, NJOY, Puff Bar, etc.), but does not include any cessation product approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for use as a medical treatment to reduce and eliminate nicotine or tobacco dependence.

TOBACCO USE PROHIBITED:

No faculty or staff member is permitted to use tobacco products (including e-cigarettes) at any time, including non-school hours, on all school grounds including in any building or facility, athletic grounds, parking lots or vehicle owned, leased, rented or chartered by **Gallipolis City School District**. Prohibition of all tobacco products also extends to any previously designated times and areas as defined in statute and by Ohio's Smoke-Free Workplace Program. In addition, no staff member or volunteer is permitted to use tobacco products (including e-cigarettes) at any school-sponsored event, whether such event occurs on-campus or off-campus.

TOBACCO PROMOTION PROHIBITED:

Tobacco advertising is prohibited on school grounds, in all school-sponsored publications, and at all school-sponsored events. Tobacco promotional items that promote the use of tobacco products, including clothing, bags, lighters, and other personal articles are not permitted on school grounds, in school vehicles, or at school-sponsored events.

PROVIDING NOTICE:

"No Tobacco" signs will be posted throughout the district at entrances and other appropriate locations on all academic buildings, administrative spaces, school grounds, and athletic fields. Students will be provided notice of this policy through student handbooks and district personnel will be provided notice of this policy through personnel handbooks. District vehicles will display the international "No Smoking" insignia. Announcements will be made during home athletic events both before the event and during intermission, as well as at all school functions

where deemed appropriate. School programs will include a written reminder of the tobacco-free policy.

ENFORCEMENT:

Explicit enforcement actions should be outlined in the written tobacco-policy. It is imperative that a 100% Tobacco-Free Schools policy be enforced, for both students and staff, through tiered disciplinary measures ranging from verbal and written warnings to more severe consequences.

EDUCATIONAL REINFORCEMENT:

Staff should be educated on the policy and the reasons supporting the policy. This can include in-service, staff handbook/communications/website, etc. Staff who use tobacco or nicotine products should be provided information on cessation resources, including the free Ohio Tobacco Quit Line, as well as any health insurance based or other evidence-based resources available. Tobacco-use prevention education should be closely coordinated with the other components of the school health program and should be evidence-based, age-appropriate, and culturally responsive. Staff responsible for teaching tobacco-use prevention education should have adequate pre-service training and participate in ongoing professional development activities to effectively deliver education programming. Preparation and professional development activities should provide basic knowledge about the effects of tobacco use and effects of peer pressure on tobacco use combined with skill practice in effective instructional techniques and strategies and program-specific activities. Ohio schools are required to educate students on the harmful effects of and legal restrictions against tobacco, including electronic smoking devices as part of the health education curriculum. In addition, this aligns with the Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS). Using the school's data, incorporating universal, ongoing educational reinforcement as part of Tier 1 PBIS strategies, and subsequent tiers, as necessary.

TOBACCO EDUCATION PROGRAM RESOURCES:

To search for educational materials and local tobacco cessation programs, visit www.odh.ohio.gov/tobacco

[Adoption date: June 14, 2007]

Revised: February 21, 2018
 October 16, 2019
 September 15, 2021
 January 13, 2025

LEGAL REFS.: The Elementary and Secondary Education Act; 20 USC 1221 et seq.
Goals 2000: Educate America Act; 20 USC 6081 through 6084
Pro-Children Act of 1994, 20 U.S.C. § 6081 et seq (1994).
ORC 3313.20, 3313.47, 3313.751, 3791.031 (LEXIS 2005).
3794.01; 3794.02; 3794.04; 3794.06
OAC 3301-35-02; 3301-35-05

CROSS REFS.: JFCG, Tobacco Use by Students
KGC, No Tobacco Use on District Property

