

REGULATION

PATERSON SCHOOL DISTRICT

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R5533 STUDENT SMOKING

The Board of Education is committed to maintaining a smoke and vape-free environment on school grounds, at events sponsored by the Board away from school, and on any transportation vehicle supplied by the Board. The school administration and all school staff members shall strictly enforce this smoking or vaping prohibition and will work together to ensure students do not smoke or vape in violation of Board Policy 5533 and N.J.S.A. 26:3D-56.

A. Notice Provisions

1. A sign shall be posted in every school building indicating smoking is prohibited in any school building or on school grounds. The sign shall also indicate violators will be subject to a fine.
2. Each school's student handbook will indicate smoking and vaping is prohibited on school grounds, at events sponsored by the Board away from school, and on any transportation vehicle supplied by the Board.
3. A public address announcement will be made, when practicable, at school-sponsored events indicating smoking and vaping is prohibited in school buildings and on school grounds.

B. Reporting Procedures

1. Any staff member who observes a student smoking or vaping in violation of Policy 5533 shall inform the student to cease smoking or vaping and report the violation to the Principal or designee.
2. The Principal or designee will investigate each report received from a staff member and make a determination whether the student has violated Board Policy 5533.



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3. In the event there is reasonable suspicion to believe a confiscated electronic smoking device is being used as a nexus for marijuana or other controlled dangerous substances or cannabis, the Principal or designee shall notify law enforcement in accordance with the district's Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement Between Education and Law Enforcement Officials and follow the procedure outlined in Regulation 5530.

C. Violation Consequences

1. In the event the Principal or designee determines a student has violated Policy 5533, the student will be assigned appropriate discipline in accordance with the district's Student Discipline/Code of Conduct.
2. The Principal or designee will notify the student's parent(s) when discipline is being imposed for a violation of Policy 5533.

Adopted: 11 June 2025


