

TOBACCO, NICOTINE AND E-CIGARETTE USE PROHIBITED

I. Statement of Policy

A. Purposes

The purposes of this Policy are to avoid the use on school property and at school events of tobacco, nicotine, and e-cigarettes, which the Waterville Central School District Board of Education (the Board) deems unhealthy; encourage students and staff to avoid the consumption or use of tobacco products, nicotine, and e-cigarettes; and to prevent persons present on school property or at school events from being exposed to second-hand tobacco smoke, nicotine, or electronically-ignited vapors. This Policy is one component of the Waterville Central School District's (the District) wellness program, drug prevention program, and commitment to provide a healthy learning and working environment.

B. Prohibited Conduct

1. The possession, use, sale, or consumption of any form of tobacco, any substance containing nicotine (except prescribed medications), any e-cigarette or oil or vaping product intended for use in an e-cigarette, and any associated paraphernalia is prohibited.
2. This prohibition applies to everybody – students, staff, parent(s)/guardian(s), vendors and contractors, and all visitors to our District.
3. This prohibition applies to anyone who is on school property, including school buses and other vehicles being used to transport students for school purposes and to anyone attending a school sponsored event, including events located off District property.
4. Public Health Law Section 1399-o prohibits all smoking within 100 feet of the entrances, exits or outdoor areas of the District's school buildings, except in a residence or within the real property boundary line of a residence.
5. This prohibition applies at all times, whether school is in session or not.

C. Proactive District Practices

1. Smoking, tobacco and nicotine use prevention will be appropriately integrated into curriculum, and appropriate instructional staff will receive training in smoking, tobacco and nicotine use prevention education.

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2. Smoking, tobacco and nicotine cessation information will be available to staff, students, parent(s)/guardian(s) and visitors.
3. There shall be no advertising of tobacco on District property or at District functions. The District will request tobacco-free versions of all publications in school libraries.
4. The District will not accept gifts or funds from the tobacco, nicotine, or e-cigarette industries.

#### II. Public Notice of Policy

- A. “No Smoking/Tobacco Use” signs shall be prominently and conspicuously posted in strategic locations on District Property and in District vehicles in accordance with NYS Law.
- B. Notices shall be posted at building entrances or driveways leading to school property notifying the public that school grounds are “tobacco free.”
- C. Staff, students and visitors will be notified of this policy through presentations, student handbooks, newsletters, Code of Conduct summaries, and announcements at meetings, events and functions.
- D. Outside groups who use District facilities will be notified of this Policy on the Building Use Request Policy and Form.

#### III. Definitions for Purposes of this Policy and the Code of Conduct

- A. “Tobacco” means any lit or unlit cigarette, cigar, cigarillo, pipe, bidi, clove, cigarette, and/or any other smoking product, including tobacco in any form (loose, smokeless, dip, chew or snuff).
- B. “District property” and “school property” means any building, vehicle, or structure owned or leased by the District, and the surrounding outdoor grounds contained within the legally defined property boundaries of the District’s properties as registered in the county clerk’s office. This includes the entrances and exits of District’s buildings and structures.
- C. “Advertising” means brand names or logos and publications on any clothing, shoes, accessories, gear, supplies or publications provided by tobacco or e-cigarette companies (including prevention/educational materials).
- D. “Associated paraphernalia” is defined as lighters, matches, rolling papers, vaporizers, oils and other solutions intended for vaporizing, etc.

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- E. “Smoking” is defined as the burning or vaporizing of tobacco or compounds or solutions containing nicotine.
- F. “Electronic cigarette” or “e-cigarette” means an electronic device that delivers vapor which is inhaled by an individual user, and shall include any refill, cartridge and any other component of such a device.

#### V. Consequences for Violation of Policy

##### A. Violations by Students

Students who engage in conduct prohibited by this Policy will be referred for disciplinary consequences in accordance with the District’s Code of Conduct.

##### B. Violations by Employees

Employees who engage in conduct prohibited by this Policy will be considered for corrective or disciplinary action in accordance with the Code of Conduct, applicable collective bargaining agreements, and District policy and practice.

##### C. Violations by Other Persons

Members of the public, including parent(s)/guardian(s), employees of vendors and contractors, and other visitors, who engage in conduct that violates this Policy will first be asked to discontinue the offending conduct and advised of this Policy. Continued or repeat violation of the Policy may result in an individual being prohibited from further entry onto school property, at the discretion of the Superintendent.

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Waterville Central School District

Legal Ref: NYS Education Law §409; NYS Public Health Law Article 13-E and Article 13-F; 20 USC §§7181-7184 and 7971-7974

Adopted: 07/09/96

Revised: 03/28/90, 01/14/14, 09/26/17, 04/27/21