

TOBACCO-FREE SCHOOLS/SMOKING

BP 3513.3

Tobacco-Free Schools / Smoking

Note: The federal No Child Left Behind Act prohibits smoking in district facilities. The following language extends this to prohibit tobacco use in school buildings, on school grounds and parking areas, at school events and in vehicles used for transporting students. The ability of the Board to adopt this following policy may be restricted by collective bargaining agreements.

The Board recognizes its responsibility to promote the health, welfare and safety of students, staff and others on district property and at school-sponsored activities. Ample research has demonstrated the health hazards associated with the use of tobacco products, including smoking and the breathing of second-hand smoke. As role models, district employees should demonstrate conduct that is consistent with school programs to discourage students from using tobacco products.

Smoking is prohibited in public schools and meetings except as allowed by law in private residences, ~~and designated employee smoking areas.~~ District employees and adult visitors may smoke ~~on school grounds~~ in areas designated by the Superintendent or designee. **These areas shall be at least 300' from the school property line.** Such areas shall be properly ventilated and prohibited to minors.

Staff and/or all others authorized to use district vehicles to transport district students to school-sponsored activities are prohibited from using tobacco in those vehicles. ~~while students are under their care.~~

For the purposes of this policy, "tobacco" is defined to include tobacco in any form and/or any nicotine delivering devices. This does not include FDA approved nicotine replacement therapy products used for the purpose of cessation. **The district will provide information on tobacco cessation programs on the website and various locations at the schools.**

This policy shall be in effect and enforceable at all times regardless of whether or not school is in session. The Superintendent or designee shall post appropriate signs prohibiting tobacco use in accordance with law.

The Superintendent may develop administrative procedures as necessary to implement this policy, including provisions for notification of the district's policy, through such means as student/parent and staff handbooks, newsletters, inclusion on school event programs; disciplinary consequences; and procedures for filing and handling complaints about violations of the district's policy.

The Superintendent may consult with local officials to promote enforcement of law that prohibits the possession of tobacco by minors on or off district grounds.

Note: Federal law does permit the use of tobacco products in a private residence. The following language clarifies whether or not your district will permit smoking in district-provided housing.

This prohibition does not apply to any private residence owned or leased by the district for housing purposes. (*cf.* 5131.62 - Tobacco)

*Legal Reference:**ALASKA STATUTES**18.35.300-18.35.330 Health nuisances**PL 107-110, Section 1303, Nonsmoking Policy for Children's Services***Revised ~~3/2012~~ 1/2019**