

MAINE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT #33

## **Tobacco-Free Schools**

Studies reveal that tobacco use (including the exposure to second-hand smoke) is detrimental to one's health; therefore, Maine School Administrative District #33 is committed to promoting a healthy and safe environment for learning and working by providing tobacco-free schools and tobacco prevention education. The District will support any student or employee seeking help in tobacco-use cessation by referring him/her to appropriate personnel and/or providing information to other resources.

Wearing and/or displaying any type of tobacco promotional materials and/or the use of tobacco products or tobacco look-alike products shall be prohibited at all times for all persons on school grounds, on school buses and other District-owned vehicles, and at all school-sponsored events (on and off school grounds).

All of these same prohibitions shall apply to electronic cigarettes and other devices designed to deliver nicotine through inhalation or "vaping," or used to simulate smoking.

Possession or use of tobacco products or paraphernalia by anyone under 18 years of age is illegal and prohibited on all school property, in school vehicles, and at school-sponsored events 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Any student 18 years and older is prohibited from possessing or using tobacco on school property, in school vehicles, and at school-sponsored events.

### **Communication of Policy**

This policy will be printed in both employee and student handbooks. Parents/legal guardians shall be notified in writing of the policy.

Tobacco free school signs will be posted in highly visible places both inside and outside all school buildings. Signs will be posted at all entrances of school buildings, school playgrounds, and athletic fields.

An announcement of the tobacco-free school policy may be made at school events, including but not limited to athletic and drama events.

Age-appropriate tobacco prevention education will be incorporated into the District's comprehensive health education curriculum.

All outside groups requesting permission to use school buildings shall be advised of this policy.

### **Smoking for Visitors, Contracted Personnel, and Others**

The use of tobacco products by visitors and contracted personnel is prohibited. This includes non-school hours and all functions of the school. This also includes others using school property.

Legal Reference: 22 MRSA § 1542, 1578-b

Cross Reference: Student Suspension

History:	Adopted	Meeting #783	June 12, 2003 (as policy GBK & JFCG)
	Revised	Meeting #809	May 9, 2005 (as policy GBK & JFCG)
	Revised	Meeting #903	July 11, 2011
	Revised	Meeting #990	July 10, 2017