

TOBACCO USE AND POSSESSION ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION

The purpose of the following administrative regulation is to effectuate the mandates imposed by the various federal and state laws in addition to this School Committee's "Tobacco Use and Possession" policy.

I. PROHIBITED CONDUCT

A. Students:

The use, possession, sale, dispensing or distribution of tobacco products by all students is prohibited in school buildings and facilities, during school-sponsored events, on school grounds and buses, and at all other times.

B. Employees and All Other Persons:

The use of tobacco products by employees and all other persons is prohibited in school buildings, facilities and on school buses during school-sponsored events and at all other times on school grounds.

In addition, employees and all other persons are strictly prohibited, under law and this School Committee's policy/administrative regulations, from selling, dispensing or distributing tobacco products to students.

II ENFORCEMENT

Principals may suspend and/or recommend expulsion of students who violate this policy, based upon the facts of each case and in accordance with established disciplinary procedures as outlined in handbooks and rubrics.. Students may also be referred to law enforcement authorities for investigation and/or prosecution.

All other persons violating this policy, e.g., employees and visitors, shall be immediately directed to cease violative behavior. In addition, all persons suspected of selling, distributing or in any way dispensing tobacco products to students shall be referred to a law enforcement agency.

Any employee violating this policy shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary measures.

III PREVENTION/EDUCATION

The school unit will provide students with information and activities focused on educating students about tobacco products and preventing their use. Programs shall teach students that the use of tobacco is harmful; how to resist peer pressure; and address the legal, social and health consequences of tobacco abuse.

IV NOTICES

Signs will be posted on school grounds and in school buildings indicating that the Biddeford School Department is a non-smoking zone and that smoking is not permitted on any school grounds.

This Committee's policy and corresponding disciplinary actions for infractions of this policy shall be printed in employee and student handbooks. Parents/guardians shall be able to access the Committee's Tobacco policy and administrative procedure on the school website.

Related Policy: JICA – Student Dress

Legal References: 20 USC § 6081 (Pro-Children Act of 1994---Goals 2000)
22 MRSA § 1578-B
Me. PL 470 (An Act to Reduce Tobacco Use by Minors)

Adopted: January 11, 2000

Revised: July 24, 2007