

Associated School Boards of South Dakota	NEPN Code: AEA
Policy Reference Manual	

TOBACCO-FREE SCHOOLS

The _____ School District recognizes its duty to promote the health and safety of students, staff and citizens on district property and during school-sponsored activities. In accordance with this responsibility, it is the intent of the School Board to establish a tobacco-free school environment that demonstrates a commitment to helping students resist tobacco use and that emphasizes the importance of adult role modeling.

The use, possession, or promotion of tobacco on school property or during school-sponsored activities is prohibited. This policy shall be in effect at all times and shall apply to all students, employees and visitors.

For the purposes of this policy:

1. "Tobacco" means any substance or item, in any form, containing tobacco;
2. "School property" means all district-owned, rented or leased buildings, grounds and vehicles;
3. "School-sponsored activity" means any planned, organized, endorsed, or supervised activity involving district students or staff that occurs either before, during or after regular school hours;
4. "Promotion" means the use or display of tobacco-related clothing, bags, lighters, or other material that is designed to encourage the acceptance or use of tobacco.

Students or district employees found to be in violation of this policy will be subject to appropriate consequences, which may involve a range of enforcement options including disciplinary action and educational alternatives to disciplinary action. Visitors in violation of this policy will result in appropriate sanctions as determined and imposed by the administration, which may include direction to leave school property.

The superintendent shall provide reasonable public notification of the district's policy, including, but not limited to, inclusion in student and staff handbooks. The superintendent may develop administrative regulations as necessary to implement this policy.

Legal References: SDCL 22-36-2 - Smoking in public place or place of employment prohibited
SDCL 13-8-39 - Management of schools by board - General powers

Adopted: [DATE]

Revised: [ASBSD Policy Reference Manual, 2009]

Notes: ASBSD sample policies are intended to be a guide for school districts. As is the case with any policy, a local school district's unique circumstances, challenges and opportunities need to be considered.

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TOBACCO-FREE SCHOOLS - REGULATION

A. DISSEMINATION

To promote compliance with this policy, students, staff and the public shall be notified of the school district's tobacco-free schools policies and regulations. Notification procedures shall include, but are not limited to:

1. Summaries of this policy and relevant regulations shall be placed in the student and staff handbooks;
2. Sufficient signage shall be placed in appropriate locations throughout the district's buildings and grounds;
3. Event programs and similar documents that are often viewed by visitors shall contain a notification of the policy; and
4. When appropriate, announcements about the school's policy will be made prior to or during school events.

B. ENFORCEMENT

The success of this policy will depend upon the thoughtfulness, consideration, and cooperation of tobacco users and non-tobacco users. All individuals on school premises share in the responsibility for adhering to and enforcing this policy.

Tobacco-free policy enforcement is designed to educate students, staff and others about the health risks associated with tobacco. Punitive measures, in accordance with district policy, will be used for repeat offenders.

1. **Students.** Any student found to be in violation of this policy shall be required to complete an assignment as an alternative to formal discipline. The assignment will be determined by the building principal or designee and will focus on helping the student understand the consequences of tobacco use. Students found to repeatedly violate this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action pursuant to district policy.
2. **Employees.** Any district employee found to be in violation of this policy may be provided with tobacco cessation information and will be encouraged to participate in a tobacco cessation program. Employees found to repeatedly violate this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action pursuant to district policy.
3. **Visitors.** Other adults observed to be in violation of this policy shall be asked to refrain from the behavior. Repeated violations of this policy will be handled on a case-by-case basis by an authorized district official and may result in a directive to leave school property.

C. DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this policy, tobacco means any substance or item, in any form, containing tobacco. The administration will treat the use, possession or promotion of all forms of nicotine-containing products or nicotine delivery devices, which may or may not include actual tobacco, as a violation of this policy, provided the product or device is not part of an individual's cessation program.

Legal References: SDCL 22-36-2 - Smoking in public place or place of employment prohibited
SDCL 13-8-39 - Management of schools by board - general powers

Cross Reference: AEA – Tobacco-Free Schools

Adopted: [DATE]

Revised: [ASBSD Policy Reference Manual, 12-2009]

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