

POLICY GUIDE

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5533 PUPIL SMOKING

The Board of Education recognizes the use of tobacco presents a health hazard that can have serious implications both for the smoker and the nonsmoker and that smoking habits developed by the young may have lifelong harmful consequences.

For the purposes of this Policy, "smoking" means the burning of, inhaling from, exhaling the smoke from, or the possession of a lighted cigar, cigarette, pipe, or any other matter or substance which contains tobacco or any other matter that can be smoked, including the use of smokeless tobacco and snuff, or the inhaling or exhaling of smoke or vapor from an electronic smoking device.

For the purpose of this Policy, "electronic smoking device" means an electronic device that can be used to deliver nicotine or other substances to the person inhaling from the device, including, but not limited to, an electronic cigarette, cigar, cigarillo, or pipe.

For the purposes of this Policy, "school buildings" and "school grounds" means and includes land, portions of land, structures, buildings, and vehicles, owned, operated, or used for the provision of academic or extracurricular programs sponsored by the district or community provider and structures that support these buildings, such as school wastewater treatment facilities, generating facilities, and any other central facilities including, but not limited to, kitchens and "School buildings" and "school grounds" also include athletic stadiums; swimming pools; any associated structures or related equipment tied to such facilities including, but not limited to, grandstands; greenhouses; garages; facilities used for non-instructional or non-educational purposes; and any structure, building, or facility used solely for school administration. "School buildings" and "school grounds" also includes other facilities as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:26-1.2; playgrounds; and other recreational places owned by local municipalities, private entities, or other individuals during those times when the school district has exclusive use of a portion of such land.

The Board prohibits smoking by pupils at any time in school buildings and on any school grounds, at events sponsored by the Board away from school, and on any transportation vehicle supplied by the Board.

A sign indicating smoking is prohibited in school buildings and on school grounds will be posted at each public entrance of a school building in accordance with



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law. The sign shall also indicate violators are subject to a fine. Pupils who violate the provisions of this Policy shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary measures in accordance with the district's Pupil Discipline/Code of Conduct and may be subject to fines in accordance with law.

In the event a pupil is found to have violated this Policy and the law, the Principal or designee may file a complaint with the appropriate Municipal Court or other agency with jurisdiction as defined in N.J.A.C. 8:6-9.1(c).

A pupil found to have violated this Policy and the law may be required to participate in additional educational programs to help the pupil understand the harmful effects of smoking and to discourage the use of tobacco products. These programs may include, but are not limited to, counseling, smoking information programs, and/or smoking cessation programs sponsored by this school district or available through approved outside agencies.

The Board directs that the health curriculum include instruction in the potential hazards of the use of tobacco. All school staff members shall make every reasonable effort to discourage pupils from developing the habit of smoking.

The Board of Education will comply with any provisions of a municipal ordinance which provides restrictions on or prohibitions against smoking equivalent to, or greater than, those provided in N.J.S.A. 26:3D-55 through N.J.S.A. 26:3D-63.

N.J.S.A. 18A:40A-1

N.J.S.A. 26:3D-55 through 26:3D-63

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-1.3

N.J.A.C. 8:6-7.2; 8:6-9.1 through 8:6-9.5

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The Board of Education is committed to maintaining a smoke-free environment on school grounds, at events sponsored by the Board away from school, and on any transportation vehicle supplied by the Board of Education. The school administration and all school staff members shall strictly enforce this smoking prohibition and will work together to ensure pupils do not smoke in violation of Board Policy 5533 and the law.

A. Notice Provisions

1. A sign shall be posted in every school building indicating smoking is prohibited in any school building or on school grounds. The sign shall also indicate violators will be subject to a fine.
2. Each school's student handbook will indicate smoking is prohibited on school grounds, at events sponsored by the Board away from school, and on any transportation vehicle supplied by the Board of Education.
3. A public address announcement will be made, when practicable, at school-sponsored events indicating smoking is prohibited in school buildings and on school grounds.

B. Reporting Procedures

1. Any teaching staff member who observes a pupil smoking in violation of Policy 5533 shall inform the pupil to cease smoking and report the violation to the Principal or designee.
2. Any support staff member who observes a pupil smoking in violation of Policy 5533 shall either inform a teaching staff member, who shall report the violation to the Principal or designee or the support staff member may report the violation directly to the Principal or designee.
3. The Principal or designee will investigate each report received from a staff member and make a determination whether the pupil has violated Board Policy 5533.



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C. Violation Consequences

1. In the event the Principal or designee determines a pupil has violated Policy 5533, the pupil will be assigned appropriate discipline in accordance with the school's pupil discipline/code of conduct.
2. The Principal or designee will notify the pupil's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) when discipline is being imposed for a violation of Policy 5533.

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