

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 67 (OKANAGAN SKAHA)

POLICY

POLICY #740 Tobacco, Cannabis and Vapour - Free Environment

RATIONALE

As smoking and the use of tobacco, cannabis and vapour products are detrimental to good health, the Board of Education will act toward the elimination of such activities and the provision of a healthy learning and working environment free from smoke and the use of tobacco, cannabis and vapour products by students, employees, and visitors.

POLICY

The Board directs that smoking, the use of tobacco or smokeless tobacco products (i.e. snuff/chew), the use of cannabis and various cannabis products (such as edibles), vapour products or e-cigarettes, holding lighted tobacco, and the display of tobacco, cannabis and vapour products be prohibited at all times in all district buildings, district vehicles, and on all school property.

The Board encourages initiatives undertaken to reduce smoking and the use of tobacco, cannabis and vapour products by both students and employees.

NOTE: An exception to this policy may be made for the ceremonial use of tobacco that is approved by the Board and performed in relation to a traditional aboriginal cultural activity, or performed by a group for a purpose approved by government regulation.

ADOPTED: November 8, 1999

Reviewed/Revised: October 1, 2007
October 7, 2013
December 17, 2018

Statutory Reference: *Tobacco Control Act*

REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES

POLICY #740 Tobacco, Cannabis and Tobacco- Free Environment

1. District Facilities and Property

A person must not smoke or vape tobacco, cannabis or vaping products. A person must not hold lighted tobacco or cannabis or use or display tobacco, cannabis or vapour products in district buildings, in district vehicles, on school property, or in private or commercial vehicles while on school property.

School property means property that is owned or leased by, or operated under the authority of, a board and is used for the purposes of delivering educational programs or other learning programs. For this policy, school board property will include school district maintenance yards and the school board site.

Community members or groups who rent or otherwise make use of district buildings or properties are expected to adhere to the policy.

2. Off-Campus Activities

Students will not smoke or vape tobacco, cannabis or vaping products. Students will not hold lighted tobacco or cannabis or use or display tobacco, cannabis or vapour products at any time while on school field trips, competitive events, extracurricular activities or any other school-related activity.

While chaperoning such events, employees and volunteers will adhere to the same expectations while in the presence of students.

3. Prevention and Cessation

Schools will provide preventative instructional programs that warn students about the hazards of smoking and the use of tobacco, cannabis and vapour products.

Schools and the district will facilitate the efforts of students and employees to cease smoking and the use of tobacco, cannabis and vapour products.

4. Communication

At the beginning of each school year, through school handbooks, newsletters, etc., schools will inform all students and parents of expectations surrounding the provision of a healthy learning and working environment free from smoke and the use of tobacco, cannabis and vapour products by students, employees, and visitors.

Employees and prospective employees will be advised of this policy, and cessation initiatives, through staff meetings, staff handbooks, and district newsletters.

Signs will be posted in a manner and location that adequately notifies students, staff, visitors, and facility and property users of the policy.

A notice of the policy will be included in/with all joint use and rental agreements.

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