

NORTH DAKOTA'S COMPREHENSIVE MODEL SCHOOL POLICY FOR TOBACCO USE

Updated June 17, 2016

Definitions

For purposes of this policy, *tobacco* is defined to include any product that contains tobacco, is manufactured from tobacco, contains nicotine, e-cigarettes, and other electronic smoking devices. This excludes any FDA-approved nicotine replacement therapy.

Rationale for Regulating Possession & Use

The health hazards of tobacco use have been well established. This policy is established to:

1. Reduce the high incidence of tobacco use in North Dakota.
2. Protect the health and safety of all students, employees, and the general public.
3. Set a non-tobacco-use example by adults.
4. Assist in complying with smoking restrictions in state and federal law (NDCC 23-12-10 and 20 U.S.C. 7973).

Tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable death and disability in North Dakota. To support and model a healthy lifestyle for our students, the **[Name of District]** School Board establishes the following tobacco-free policy.

Use & Possession Prohibitions

1. **Students:** Possession and/or use of tobacco products by students on district property, in district vehicles, and at school-sponsored events (whether on or off district property) is prohibited at all times.
2. **Staff/Visitors:** The use of tobacco products by all school employees and visitors on district property, in district vehicles, and at school-sponsored events (whether on or off district property) is prohibited.

This policy includes all events sponsored by the school and all events on school property that are not sponsored by, or associated with, the school.

3. **Additional:** The District will not allow advertising of tobacco products in school buildings, on school property, at school functions, on district property, or in any school publications. This includes clothing that advertises tobacco products.

The District will not accept any gifts (such as curriculum, book covers, speakers, etc.) or funds from the tobacco industry.

Communicating to Students, Staff, & Public

This policy will be printed in employee and the student handbooks. The District shall comply with all smoking prohibition posting requirements in NDCC 23-12-10.4 and post such notices in other highly visible places in all district schools and property, such as, but not limited to: school playgrounds, athletic fields and school-sponsored events (on district property). Parents will be sent notification in writing, and the local media will be asked to communicate this tobacco-free policy communitywide.

Responsibility for Violations

All individuals on the district's premises share in the responsibility for adhering to and enforcing this policy. The Superintendent shall develop regulations for the enforcement and implementation of this policy.

Tobacco Cessation Services

Individuals requesting assistance with tobacco cessation services will be referred to NDQuits, the North Dakota Department of Health multi-media tobacco cessation program. This is a free cessation service provided to citizens of North Dakota.

(Reference: *Creating and Maintaining a Tobacco-Free School Policy*, Bureau of Health, Maine Department of Human Services; *Fit, Healthy, and Ready to Learn*, A School Health Policy Guide, National Association of State Boards of Education, North Dakota School Board Association)