



Policy No. 207

TOBACCO, VAPING AND CANNABIS FREE ENVIRONMENT

POLICY STATEMENT

The Board of School District 87 Stikine recognizes that the use of tobacco, vaping, and cannabis products is a health and safety hazard for students, staff, visitors and school facilities.

The Board is committed to promoting positive role modeling and a healthy learning and working environment. The Board also recognizes its legal obligation pursuant to federal and provincial legislation under the *Tobacco and Vapor Products Control Act* and the *BC Cannabis Control and Licensing Act*. As such, a person must not smoke or use tobacco, cannabis, or e-cigarettes, or hold lighted tobacco, cannabis, or activated e-cigarettes in or on school property.

The Board permits ONLY ceremonial use of tobacco where the activity is performed in relation to a traditional Indigenous cultural activity, or performed by a group for a specific educational purpose and has been approved by the School Principal and aligns with this policy.

GUIDING LEGISLATION/REGULATIONS

- *Tabacco and Vaping Products Control Act and Regulation*
- *BC Cannabis Control and Licensing Act*

REGULATIONS

Definitions

1. ***E-cigarette*** includes the following:
 - a. a product or device, whether or not it resembles a cigarette, containing an electronic or battery-powered heating element capable of vaporizing an e-substance for inhalation or release into the air; or
 - b. a prescribed product or device similar in nature or use of a product or device described in "a" above.
2. ***E-substance*** is a solid, liquid or gas that:
 - a. on being heated, produces a vapor for use in an e-cigarette regardless of whether the solid, liquid or gas contains nicotine, and
 - b. is not a controlled substance within the meaning of the *Controlled Drug and Substance Act* (Canada).
3. ***Activated e-cigarette*** means an e-cigarette in which an e-substance is being vaporized, including portable vaporizers.
4. ***Tobacco*** means tobacco leaves or products produced from any form or for any use.

5. "**Vapor product**" means the following:
 - a. an e-cigarette;
 - b. an e-substance; or
 - c. a cartridge for, or component of, an e-cigarette.
6. "**Tobacco, cannabis and/or vaping use**" includes smoking, chewing, dipping, ingesting, or any other use of tobacco, cannabis or vaping.
7. "**District Property**" refers to:
 - a. in any building, facility or vehicle owned, leased, rented or chartered by the District (with the exception of non-vacant staff housing units);
 - b. on any school grounds or property, including sports fields, playgrounds, courtyards, driveways, and parking lots owned, leased, or rented by the District (with the exception of non-vacant staff housing units);
 - c. at any school sponsored or school related event, on or off school property; and
 - d. on any public property neighbouring the school or District property which is within six (6) meters of doorways, open windows and/or intakes to the District building.

Prohibition

1. The use of tobacco, vaping products, or e-cigarettes or the consumption or smoking of cannabis is prohibited at all times on any school district property at all times, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, regardless of whether or not school is in session.
2. The holding of a lighted tobacco or vaping product, and activated cigarette and/or any cannabis product is also prohibited on any/all District property or in any vehicle parked on District property.
3. Any student selling or who has sold tobacco, vaping products, or cannabis during anytime the school has or had jurisdiction of the behavior of the student is in violation of this policy.
4. In addition, District employees, volunteers, contractors or other persons performing services on behalf of the District are prohibited from using tobacco, vaping products, or cannabis at any time while on duty and in the presence of students, either on or off District property.

Awareness

1. Signs will be posted in a manner and location that adequately notify students, staff and visitors about the **Tabacco, Vaping and Cannabis Free Environment** on all District property.
2. Schools will support health and preventative programs that warn students about the hazards of tobacco, vaping, and cannabis use. Schools will support students in developing the ability to resist peer pressure, make informed decisions and use refusal and assertiveness to help prevent and avoid tobacco, vaping and cannabis use.
3. Opportunity shall be provided for staff to participate in in-service activities which focus on the reduction of tobacco, vaping and cannabis use.

Enforcement

1. Any student in violation of this policy will be subject to progressive consequences in accordance with ***Policy 201 – Student Code of Conduct***.
2. Any employee found to have violated this policy may be subject to disciplinary action as per ***Policy 301 – Employee Code of Conduct***.
3. Any contractor or other person performing services on behalf of the District found to have violated this policy may be in breach of their agreement.
4. Any lessee found to have violated this policy may be in breach of their lease agreement.
5. Any volunteer or participant in community use activities found to have violated this policy may be prohibited from future activities.

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