

## **TOBACCO FREE ENVIRONMENT**

### **Background**

The Division is concerned about the potential health hazards associated with smoking. It is also recognized that as students mature they have increasing rights and responsibilities for their personal choices.

The Division supports the creation of a tobacco free environment in its schools and facilities and on all school and Division property.

### **Definition**

Tobacco – is defined to include any lighted or unlighted cigarette, cigar, pipe, bidi, clove cigarette, electronic cigarette, vaporizer and any other smoking product, and spit tobacco, also known as smokeless, dip, chew and snuff, in any form. It does not include marijuana or cannabis used for medical purposes and authorized by a medical document, as contemplated by the *Access to Cannabis for Medical Purposes Regulation* (as amended, repealed and replaced from time to time).

### **Procedures**

1. Smoking and use of tobacco products shall be prohibited in all Division facilities and on all Division properties.
  - 1.1 No student or staff member is permitted to use tobacco products at any time, including non-school hours:
    - 1.1.1 In any building, facility, or vehicle owned, leased, rented or chartered by the Division/school;
    - 1.1.2 On school grounds, athletic grounds or parking lots.
  - 1.2 Students are not allowed to use tobacco products at any school-sponsored event off campus.
  - 1.3 Staff/supervisors are not allowed to use tobacco products while in direct supervision of students.
2. Appropriate signs will be placed in conspicuous places in all Division facilities and properties, and suitable notification will be made in all student handbooks.
3. Community groups utilizing Division facilities shall be advised of the use of tobacco products prohibition and usage shall be subject to cancellation for contravention.
4. New employees shall be advised of the prohibition at the time of hiring.

5. Principals are encouraged to implement educational programs for students and staff designed to inform participants about the health risks associated with the use of tobacco products.
6. Principals are responsible for:
  - 6.1 Implementing and monitoring education programs designed to discourage the use of tobacco products.
  - 6.2 Ensuring that students under the age of eighteen (18) do not possess or smoke tobacco products.
  - 6.3 Ensuring that staff and adult students do not smoke tobacco products in school facilities or on school property.
  - 6.4 Advising adult user group participants that school facilities and school property are smoke free.
7. Nothing in this administrative procedure restricts or limits the Division's ability to sponsor in-school indigenous cultural ceremonies/activities, as organized by the principal and/or teacher, for school related purposes.

Reference: Section 20, 60, 61, 113 School Act  
Prevention of Youth Tobacco Use Act  
Prevention of Youth Tobacco Use Regulation AR 13/2003  
Tobacco Reduction Act  
Access to Cannabis for Medical Purposes Regulation