

24/7 TOBACCO FREE ENVIRONMENT POLICY

Tecumseh Public Schools Board of Education is committed to providing a healthy and productive environment for all persons using the school facilities. The district understands the concern of parents, educators, students, and community members regarding the adverse effects of tobacco and second hand smoke. We want to provide a safe and healthy environment for our students, staff, and community and set the proper example for our students. Therefore, tobacco in any form will not be used by anyone, anywhere, anytime (including non-school hours and days) on school grounds, property, vehicles and during any school sponsored functions held off campus.

This policy is intended to improve the health and safety of all individuals using the schools.

“Tobacco” is defined as cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco and all other kinds and forms of tobacco prepared in such a manner to be suitable for chewing, smoking or both, and includes e-cigarettes /vaping devices or any other product packaged for smoking or the simulation of smoking.

This regulation applies to employees of the school district, students, and visitors. This regulation also applies to all public school functions (ballgames, concerts, etc.) and any outside agency using the district’s facilities, including stadiums. This regulation is in effect 24 hours per day, seven days per week.

Enforcement

The success of this regulation will depend upon the thoughtfulness, consideration and cooperation of tobacco users and non-tobacco users. All individuals on school premises share in the responsibility for adhering to and enforcing this regulation. All students will receive instruction on avoiding tobacco use. Ultimately, each site administrator will take appropriate steps to enforce the regulation.

Students found in violation of the policy will have their parents contacted for a first violation. Second offense will include disciplinary action, to include, but not limited to community service and tobacco education programs. Information about the Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline will be provided to students in violation of this policy in order to provide a resource for tobacco cessation.

Staff members who violate the regulation shall be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the employee bargaining agreements. Information about the Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline will be provided to staff members in violation of this policy in order to provide a resource for tobacco cessation.

Visitors who violate the policy shall be subject to a verbal request to the individual to stop. If the person refuses to stop, the individual will be requested to leave. If the person refuses to leave, they will be referred to local authorities.

In addition, the district will not accept donations of gifts, money, or materials from the tobacco industry. This district will not participate in any type of services that are funded by the tobacco industry.

(Federal Law does not allow any indoor facility utilized for educational services to have designated smoking areas.)

REFERENCE: 63 O.S. 1-1522, et seq.
20 U.S.C. 6083