

USE OF TOBACCO ON SCHOOL GROUNDS

The board of education recognizes that tobacco use has been shown to be linked to illnesses and disability and tobacco use is particularly addictive to children and youth. Therefore, in compliance with state law, the following policy on smoking and tobacco use is adopted.

Students will not be permitted to use tobacco products of any kind on or in any school property while in attendance at a school-sponsored event, or while in transport to or from school (or a school event) in school-authorized vehicles.

1. "School property" is defined as all property owned, leased, rented or otherwise used by any school in this district, including but not limited to the following:
 - a. All interior portions of any building or other structure used for instruction, administration, support services, maintenance or storage.
 - b. All school grounds over which the school exercises control including areas surrounding any building, playgrounds, athletic fields, recreation areas and parking areas.
 - c. All vehicles used by the district for transporting students, staff, visitors or other persons.
2. "Tobacco" is defined as cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco and all other kinds and forms of tobacco prepared in such manner to be suitable for chewing, smoking or both.
3. "Use" is defined as lighting, chewing, inhaling or smoking any tobacco as defined within this policy.

The following policy is adopted for patrons, employees and other adults. No smoking or other use of tobacco products shall be allowed in any educational facility by any individual during the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. when school is in session or at other hours when a class, activity or program for students is in session. The administration may, at the discretion of the board, designate smoking areas outside the buildings for use by adults during certain activities including athletic events.

The Commerce School District shall prohibit smoking in the bleachers at the football field, baseball field, and softball field.

The Commerce School District shall prohibit smoking in all areas of each school building.

During non-school hours (4:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.), smoking will be permitted on school property in designated smoking areas only.

The school district administration bears the responsibility for addressing complaints, including asking smokers to refrain from smoking.

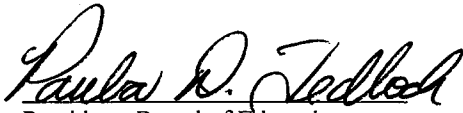
Signs will be posted in prominent places on school property to notify the public that smoking is prohibited.

Employees are warned that violation of this policy may lead to dismissal action. Patrons who violate this policy will be asked to leave the school premises. Students violating this policy will be disciplined according to the district's discipline policy.

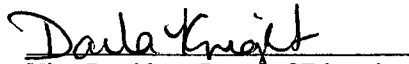
**References: 63 O.S. §1-1523 (Section 941, School Laws of Oklahoma)
HB 2529, 2000 Legislative Session, effective November 1, 2000
20 U.S.C. §6083**

Federal law does not allow any indoor facility utilized for educational services to have designated smoking areas. 20 U.S.C. §6083.

Revised this 13th day of November 2000.




President, Board of Education



Vice-President, Board of Education

Clerk, Board of Education



Deputy Clerk, Board of Education

Member, Board of Education