

TOBACCO-FREE SCHOOLS

Smoking poses a significant health risk to the smoker and there is evidence that non-smokers exposed to second hand smoke are also at risk. As a concerned employer, the MSAD #56 Board of Directors has a responsibility to provide a healthy working environment for its staff. Lifetime smoking habits are often formed during the school years; therefore, the Board of Directors has a responsibility to encourage non-smoking among students through the formal classroom setting and by example.

The use of tobacco and tobacco products, including smokeless tobacco, is prohibited on all district property including district-owned vehicles. This policy applies to students, staff and the general public. Any member of the general public found smoking or using tobacco products will be asked by the appropriate school official to refrain from smoking or tobacco use while on district property, as per the district's tobacco-free policy. If the visitor does not comply, they will be asked to leave. If they refuse to leave, the police may be called.

District employees and students enrolled in the district's schools are not permitted to use tobacco or tobacco products, including smokeless tobacco, while they are participants in any activity sponsored by the school district on any MSAD #56 school property, and at any sponsored event off of the MSAD #56 campus sanctioned by our schools. Signs will be appropriately posted throughout the district.

This tobacco policy will be a part of student handbooks and will be posted in appropriate employee work areas. Parents/guardians shall be notified of this tobacco policy in the student/parent handbook which is distributed at the beginning of each school year.

LEGAL REFERENCE: 22 MRSA § 1542 and §1578-B

CROSS REFERENCES: GBEC, Employee Chemical Health Policy
JICG, Use of Tobacco Products by Students
JICH-R, Chemical Health Policy for Students

ADOPTED: April 8, 1986

REVISED: September 13, 1988
February 11, 1997
March 9, 1999
August 12, 2003