



NO SMOKING OR VAPING

APPROVED: 1978.06.20
REVISED: 1988.05.24
1990.06.19
1995.03.28
1998.03.10
1998.04.14
2017.02.28

POLICY

Smoking, vaping and the use of tobacco products including chewing tobacco, electronic cigarettes and vapour products is prohibited at all times in all school district buildings and on all school district properties. All e-substances are covered by legislation and it does not matter if the e-substance contains nicotine or is nicotine free.

Ceremonial use of tobacco is permitted where the activity has been approved by the Board, and the ceremony is performed in relation to a traditional Aboriginal cultural activity, or performed by a group for a purpose approved by government regulation.

DEFINITIONS:

“e-substance” is a solid, liquid or gas that when heated by the element in the electronic cigarette, produces a vapour for use in the device.

“Reasonable distance” ranges from a minimum of fifty (50) meters from the school property up to several blocks from the school. Determination will be site-specific.

“Smoke-free or Vape-free zone” is an area within the vicinity of a school where smoking, electronic cigarettes, and the use of tobacco or vapour products is prohibited. This area will encompass school buildings and properties and extend a reasonable distance from school property. The “smoke-free or vape-free zone” is in effect for students at all times they are under the school’s jurisdiction.

“Vapour Product or Electronic Cigarette” is a device that contains an electronic or battery-powered heating element that can vapourize an e-substance.

Responsibility Centre: Superintendent of Schools

References: *School Act*, Section 85
Prince George Clean Air Bylaw No. 4708
Policy 5131 District Code of Student Conduct

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PREAMBLE

To promote a healthy learning environment, workplace and lifestyle, this policy directs that smoking, electronic cigarettes, and the use of tobacco or vapour products is prohibited at all times in all school district buildings and on all school district properties.

This policy also provides for “smoke-free and vape-free zones.”

Approved: 1998.03.10
Revised: 2017.02.28



NO SMOKING OR VAPING**REGULATIONS:**

1. All school buildings and grounds and all other school district property shall be smoke-free and vape-free. No one (student, employee, visitor, facility user, or member of the public) is permitted to smoke, vape, or use tobacco or vapour products on school district property at any time.
2. Community members or groups who violate this policy while renting or otherwise using school district buildings or properties may be subject to:
 - 2.1 A charge of \$50.00 per hour (minimum charge \$50.00) to clean up the residue or garbage left by people smoking on district property.
 - 2.2 A warning that future violations of this policy will result in withdrawal of use of the building or property.
 - 2.3 Withdrawal of the privilege of using district buildings or properties.
3. No smoking or vaping is permitted in any school district vehicle at any time.
4. No smoking or vaping is permitted in any vehicle while on school district property at any time.
5. After consultation with students, staff, parents and nearby residents and businesses, school principals will establish and monitor a “smoke-free, vape-free zone” that is a reasonable distance from school property. The area of this zone will be determined by the principal after considering student safety, monitoring capabilities, topography, ground cover, traffic frequencies and patterns, street configurations, proximity and density of housing and commercial developments, student/staff/parent/community support, and any other factors that may be relevant.
6. Any changes to a “smoke-free, vape-free zone” may only be made after going through a consultation process as outlined in Regulation 5.
7. Elementary school students will not smoke, vape or use tobacco or vapour products while under the jurisdiction of the school.
8. Secondary students will not smoke, vape or use tobacco or vapour products while on school property at any time; within the established “smoke-free , vape-free zone” for each school while under the school’s jurisdiction; or at any time while on school field trips, competitive events, extracurricular activities or any other school-related activity.



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9. Students who violate this policy will be subject to progressive discipline as per the District Code of Student Conduct (Policy 5131). Disciplinary action may include:
 - 9.1.1 Restorative practice or restitution.
 - 9.1.2 The assignment of a learning activity designed to help develop a plan for improvement.
 - 9.1.3 A loss of privileges related to the behaviour.
 - 9.1.4 An assignment of an in-school suspension.
 - 9.1.5 An assignment of an out-of-school suspension.

10. While in the presence of students, employees and volunteers will not smoke, vape or use tobacco or vapour products when involved in field trips, competitive events, extra-curricular activities or any other work-related activity.

11. Continuing Education facilities and adult learning centres shall establish no smoking regulations that prohibit smoking and vaping in school buildings and on school properties.

12. Schools will support health and preventative programs that warn students about the hazards of smoking and the use of tobacco products. Schools will help students develop the ability to resist peer pressure, make decisions and use refusal and assertiveness skills to prevent an avoid tobacco use.

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NO SMOKING OR VAPING**ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES:**

1. Students, parents, employees, prospective employees, visitors, residents and businesses within the school's vicinity, and community members and groups who rent or otherwise use school district buildings and properties will be advised of this policy.
2. The school principal shall advise the Secretary-Treasurer's office of community members who violate this policy while renting or otherwise using district buildings or properties.
3. Variance from 50-meter minimum distance:
 - 3.1. In extraordinary circumstances, if there is significant student safety, student supervision or neighbourhood property issues, the principal of a secondary school may request a variance to reduce the 50-meter minimum distance that a smoke-free, vape-free zone will be from school property.
 - 3.2. A request for variance may only be made following a detailed and documented process of consultation with students, staff, parents, neighbours and the RCMP. The school's parent advisory council must also support the variance request.
 - 3.3. The variance request is to be made in writing to the Superintendent of Schools or his designate with full supporting documentation including a revised map of the proposed adjustment.
 - 3.4. The request for variance must present a workable solution that maintains the integrity of the no smoking, vaping policy within the context of addressing serious and pressing neighbourhood concerns and difficult implementation issues.
 - 3.5. The Superintendent or his designate has the authority to approve a variance, to determine the time frame during which the variance is authorized, to modify an existing variance and to rescind a variance.
 - 3.6. The Board will be advised immediately of all approved requests for variance from the 50-meter minimum.

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