

3.30.021-P Tobacco Possession and Use

Tobacco use is the single most preventable cause of death in the United States.¹ Nearly all (80 percent in Oregon²) first-use of tobacco and most addiction (89 percent³) occurs before young people graduate from high school. Tobacco is often the first illegal drug used by young people who use alcohol and other illegal drugs. Schools have the opportunity to help prevent tobacco use for the health and well being of students and staff, and to prepare students for smoke-free work environments. A Portland Public Schools Strategic Plan core value states: “Adult behavior is a powerful teacher for young people.”

- (1) For the purposes of this policy, “tobacco” includes, but is not limited to, any lighted or unlighted cigarette, cigar, pipe, bidi, clove cigarette or any smoking product or spit tobacco product such as smokeless tobacco, dip, chew or snuff, in any form. The use of any of these products is prohibited by all parties on or about district properties including buildings, grounds, vehicles and any other property.
- (2) The possession or distribution of tobacco products and tobacco paraphernalia (e.g., lighters, rolling papers) shall be prohibited on or about district properties including buildings, grounds, vehicles and any other property by all students, regardless of age.
- (3) Students, regardless of age, are prohibited from using, possessing, or distributing tobacco products during any school activity including, but not limited to:
 - (a) The school day;
 - (b) Club meetings, regardless of the meeting location and time; and
 - (c) Athletic practices and activities. Students participating in school athletic programs are subject to the tobacco prohibition and usage at all times.
 - (d) School dances.
- (4) Tobacco use shall be prohibited on all school buses and other district-provided transportation when transporting students for school activities. Tobacco use is prohibited at all times in any district-owned or leased vehicles.
- (5) Advertising of tobacco products and/or tobacco companies shall be prohibited in all school publications, in all district buildings and at all school functions. This prohibition includes, but is not limited to:
 - (a) Tobacco industry sponsorship, gifts, funding or other marketing incentives; and

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- (b) Tobacco promotional items, including clothing, bags, lighters, and other personal articles and paraphernalia, shall not be permitted on school grounds, in school vehicles, or at school-sponsored activities.
- (6) Tobacco prevention education shall be included within a plan for prevention, integrated within the health education program. The educational program shall be based on theories and methods that have been proven effective by published research and consistent with the district and state health education standards.
- (7) Individuals (parents, volunteers etc) supervising students off school property while engaged in a school sponsored activity, shall not use or distribute any tobacco products while in the presence of students, or at any time while engaged in any activities directly involving students.
- (8) The superintendent shall develop administrative directives to implement this policy, including processes for:
 - (a) Student sanctions;
 - (b) Collection of tobacco products;
 - (c) Staff sanctions, as governed by the individual's collective bargaining agreement;
 - (d) Visitor and volunteer sanctions;
 - (e) Cessation support; and
 - (f) Notifying students, families, personnel and school visitors of the district's policy on tobacco possession and use.

Legal References: ORS 167.400; ORS 339.865; ORS 192.710; OAR 581-022-1210; OAR 581-022-0413; OAR 581-053-015; OAR 581-053-434; 1998 Master Settlement Agreement; BR 4079, 3/11/93.

History: Adpt. as AR 1/15/96; Amd 8/12/02, BA 2385, and made a policy.

¹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2000.

² Tobacco Prevention Program, Oregon Health Division, 1993.

³ CDC Preventing Tobacco Use and Addiction, June 1997.