

STUDENT TOBACCO POSSESSION AND USE

1.0 Introduction. The use or possession of tobacco products at school, at any school-sponsored event or activity and/or on all District property, including all District buildings, District grounds, and District owned and leased vehicles and sites, is prohibited by state law. Possession of tobacco products is prohibited for all students under the age of 18. Some municipalities within the District have ordinances further restricting possession or use of tobacco by minors within their city boundaries.

2.0 Definitions.

2.1 Tobacco is defined as all forms of tobacco ingested by chewing, smoking or any other means. This includes any product packaged for smoking.

2.2 Use is defined as the lighting, chewing, smoking, application or ingestion of any tobacco product.

2.3 Possession is bringing, possessing or having tobacco in one's control.

2.4 Sale, Transfer, Distribution or Solicitation of tobacco products at school is prohibited. Sale, transfer, distribution and solicitation shall have the same meanings as in Superintendent Policy 5040 regarding controlled substances. Offenses for these violations typically result in suspension out of school for the first offense.

3.0 Sanctions and Interventions.

3.1 Offenses and consequences for tobacco policy violations shall be cumulative for a period of 3 calendar years. Offenses confirmed from schools prior to enrollment in the District may apply toward this cumulative total.

3.2 Students shall generally receive progressive discipline for violations of this policy. However, in or out of school suspension may be imposed for any single violation when deemed appropriate by the administrator under the circumstances at that time.

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3.3 For all violations, staff members should confiscate the tobacco product(s), notify parents of the violation, and notify law enforcement of the violation.

3.4 1st Offense – A staff member should review the tobacco policy with the student and parents.

3.5 2nd Offense – A staff member should review each item in the tobacco policy with student and parents, and issue in-building sanctions at the administrator’s discretion. Information about tobacco cessation programs available in the District or community should be provided to the parent or student.

3.6 3rd Offense – Three or more tobacco related offenses will be considered defiance of authority and may result in the student being issued a one day suspension. As an alternative to suspension, students not already participating in a tobacco cessation program may agree to participate in such a program provided through the school or in the community. Failure to successfully complete the agreed program would result in the original suspension being reinstated.

3.7 4th or Subsequent Violations – Such violations will be considered defiance of authority and may result in suspensions of up to three (3) days for each offense.

4.0 Many secondary schools in the District offer tobacco cessation programs at no-cost to students. Students or parents interested in participation in cessation programs should inquire at their school’s counseling office.

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LEGAL REFERENCES:

C.R.S 22-32-109

C.R.S. 25-14-103.5 *et. seq.*

6 CCR 1010-6, Rule 5-306

Adams 12 Five Star Schools Most Recent Adoption May 28, 2009