



Book	Administrative Guideline Manual
Section	For Superintendent Review - Administrative Guidelines Vol. 34, No. 1
Title	USE OF TOBACCO AND NICOTINE BY STUDENTS
Code	ag5512 - New Guideline - Vol. 34, No. 1, Dec. 2024
Status	

5512 - **USE OF TOBACCO AND NICOTINE BY STUDENTS**

Board Policy 5512 - Use of Tobacco and Nicotine by Students recognizes that the use of tobacco products, as well as other nicotine delivery systems, such as electronic smoking devices, are a health, safety, and environmental hazard for students, staff, visitors, and school facilities. The Board is acutely aware of the serious health risks associated with the use of these products, both to users and non-users, and that their use or promotion on school grounds and at off-campus school-sponsored events is detrimental to the health and safety of students, staff, and visitors.

Ceremonial Tobacco

The Administration recognizes that some nicotine usage has a cultural significance, particularly within Indigenous communities. Nothing in these guidelines is intended to infringe upon the legitimate exercise of cultural beliefs or ceremonial representations. In the event of a potential conflict between the Board's policy prohibiting the use or possession of nicotine-containing products and a student's exercise of cultural traditions, the Administration shall consult with appropriate tribal representatives to apply this guideline and Board Policy 5512 - Use of Tobacco and Nicotine by Students in a manner that respects such cultural significance.

Implementation and Accountability

Responsibility for the oversight and implementation of Board Policy 5512 - Use of Tobacco and Nicotine by Students is the responsibility of all staff. enforcement processes is delegated to the ~~() school counselor () nurse () studentpupil service team ()~~ **[END OF OPTIONS]**. The District administration may review data and policy initiatives to inform decisions related to the improvement of enforcement efforts.

~~**() Notification To The Public**~~

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~~The District may inform students, staff, caregivers, and the public () at least once a year **[END OF OPTION]**, in the student handbook, about the existence of the policy.~~

[END OF NOTIFICATION OPTION]

Definitions

The term "supportive disciplinary practices" means disciplinary practices that are rooted in empathy and provide opportunities for students to understand the root causes of their behavior and develop positive coping strategies.

The term "school-based tobacco product education" means evidence-based education, as defined by national or State school health standards, provided annually within the school environment to all K-12 students to inform them of the dangers of the use of tobacco products and discourage students from using such products.

Tiered Approach to Violations of the Policy

Any student violating Board Policy 5512 - Use of Tobacco and Nicotine by Students may be subjected to disciplinary action. In addition, the District recognizes the addictive quality of nicotine and therefore the value in supporting students through education and cessation efforts in any students' efforts to cease use of tobacco or other products containing nicotine. The following guidelines may be used to assist in this process:

↔ Any violation involving the possession or usage of tobacco products may result in:

- A. confiscation of tobacco products;
- B. notification of parent;
- C. the offer of information to the student about available evidence-based education on the harmful effects of tobacco and nicotine; and
- D. facilitation of the enrollment of the student, if the student expresses an interest in quitting, in an evidence-based free or low-cost (e.g., through Medicaid or community partners) tobacco cessation program; or cessation programs that are free or low-cost (e.g., through Medicaid or community partners), including nationally recognized tobacco cessation programs; and additional intervention as follows:

1. at the first violation:

a collaborative conversation between the student and a designated staff member to discuss:

- a. what factors led to the violation, including information on student's tobacco product usage, possible triggers for use, and knowledge of physical, social, and emotional harm caused by tobacco;
- b. the policy's purpose, which is to protect students from the impacts of long-term commercial tobacco product use; and
- c. a verbal agreement on the next steps between the student and the designated staff member

2. at the second violation:

- a. a collaborative conversation may take place between the student and a designated staff member as outlined above;
- b. the student may be enrolled in an evidence-based tobacco education program as an alternative to suspension; and
- c. the district may designate a staff member to monitor the progress of the student found in violation of the policy.

3. at the third and subsequent violation(s):

a supportive discipline meeting may take place between the student, their caregiver(s), and at least three (3) staff members in the following roles: administrator or member of student discipline staff; chemical dependency professional or designated staff member (ideally a school nurse, school counselor or school-based health center staff member); other student support staff member (as identified by student) to include:

- a. a discussion of the following topics:
 - 1. past violations of policy;
 - 2. progress of the student in treatment or other interventions;
 - 3. specific challenges and barriers to impeding policy adherence;
 - 4. commitment by students to avoid infractions and address tobacco usage through on- and off-campus resources; and
 - 5. discussion of how to provide support from staff members and parents to promote success.
- b. the development of a sixty (60) day plan monitored by a designated staff member to include collective agreement of consequences that may follow if this plan is not completed.

~~[END OF OPTION]~~**~~(-) Community Partners~~**

To support students in abstaining from or reducing tobacco product use and complying with Policy 5512 - Use of Tobacco and Nicotine by Students, the district may consult with health insurers, the local public health department, and/or other community-based organizations to provide information about and access to free or low-cost evidence-based programs and services for tobacco prevention and cessation.

~~(-) The term "supportive disciplinary practices" means disciplinary practices that are rooted in empathy and provide opportunities for students to understand the root causes of their behavior and develop positive coping strategies.~~

~~The term "school based tobacco product education" means evidence based education, as defined by national or State school health standards, provided annually within the school environment to all K-12 students to inform them of the dangers of the use of tobacco products and discourage students from using such products.~~

~~[END OF COMMUNITY PARTNER OPTION]~~

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