

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

No. 222

SECTION: 200 Pupils

TITLE: Promoting Tobacco and
Vape Free Schools

ADOPTED: August 24, 2011

REVISED: June 26, 2025

222 PROMOTING TOBACCO AND VAPE FREE SCHOOLS

Purpose

The Board of Education (“Board”) recognizes that tobacco products, including electronic cigarettes, alternative nicotine products, and vapor products present a health and safety hazard that can have serious consequences for both users and nonusers and the safety and environment of School District of Philadelphia (“District”) schools. The purpose of this policy is to prohibit student possession, use, purchase and sale of tobacco and vaping products and assure a healthy environment for the wellbeing of our students and staff.

Authority

The Board prohibits possession, use or sale of tobacco products, alternative nicotine or vapor products regardless of whether such products contain tobacco or nicotine, by students at any time in a school building and on any property, buses, vans, and vehicles that are owned, leased, or controlled by the District.[\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)[\[3\]](#)

The Board prohibits possession, use, or sale of tobacco products, alternative nicotine or vapor products by students at off-campus, District-sponsored events. [\[1\]](#)

The Board also prohibits the possession of paraphernalia associated with tobacco products, alternative nicotine or vapor products, including but not limited to rolling papers, matches, and **lighters**.

The Board prohibits student possession of any form of marijuana or other controlled substances at any time in a school building; on school buses or other vehicles that are owned, leased or controlled by the District; on property owned, leased or controlled by the District; or at school-sponsored activities that are held off school property.[\[4\]](#)

Tampering with devices installed to detect use of tobacco products shall be deemed a violation of this policy and subject to disciplinary action.[\[13\]](#)

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or designee shall annually notify students, parents/guardians and staff about this policy by publishing this policy in the student handbook, parent newsletters, posted notices, Code of Student Conduct, District website, and other efficient methods. [1]

The Superintendent or designee shall develop Administrative Procedures to implement this policy.

Mandated Procedures

All tobacco products, alternative nicotine, or vapor products and/or paraphernalia discovered in the possession of students shall be confiscated and not returned. [\[1\]](#)

The Superintendent or designee may report incidents of possession, use or sale of tobacco products, alternative nicotine or vapor products by students on school property, at any off-campus, District-sponsored event or on a conveyance providing transportation to or from a school or off-campus, District-sponsored event to the local law enforcement agency that has jurisdiction over the school's property, in accordance with state law and regulations, the procedures set forth in the memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement and Board policies. [\[9\]](#)[\[10\]](#)[\[11\]](#)[\[12\]](#)

The Administrator or designee shall notify the parent/guardian of any student directly involved in an incident involving possession, use, or sale of tobacco products, alternative nicotine or vapor products immediately, or as soon as practicable. The Administrator or designee shall inform the parent/guardian whether or not the local law enforcement agency that has jurisdiction over the school property has been or may be notified of the incident. The Administrator or designee shall document attempts made to reach the parent/guardian. [\[9\]](#)[\[10\]](#)

In the case of a student with a disability, including a student for whom an evaluation is pending, the District shall take all steps required to comply with state and federal laws and regulations, the procedures set forth in the memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement, and Board policies. [\[4\]](#)[\[5\]](#)[\[6\]](#)[\[7\]](#)[\[8\]](#)[\[9\]](#)

Legal References:

1. [18 Pa. C.S.A. § 6306.1](#)
2. [18 Pa. C.S.A. § 6305](#)
3. [20 U.S.C. § 7183](#)
4. [22 Pa. Code 10.23](#)
5. [20 U.S.C. §§ 1400, et seq.](#)
6. [Policy 103.1](#) - Nondiscrimination - Qualified Students With Disabilities/Protected Handicapped Students
7. [Policy 113.1](#) - Discipline of Students With Disabilities
8. [Policy 113.2](#) - Behavior Support
9. [Policy 805.1](#) - Relations With Law Enforcement Agencies
10. [22 Pa. Code § 10.2](#)
11. [22 Pa. Code § 10.22](#)
12. [22 Pa. Code § 10.25](#)
13. [Policy 218 - Student Conduct and Discipline](#)

Related Information:

- 24 P.S. § 510
- 22 Pa. Code § 403.1
- 20 U.S.C. § 7114
- 20 U.S.C. §§ 7181, *et seq.*
- 34 CFR Part 300
- Philadelphia Home Rule Charter - 12-300
- [Policy 218.1](#) - Weapons