

REGULATION - TOBACCO PRODUCTS AND NICOTINE VAPOR PRODUCTS

I. Tobacco Use

Use of all tobacco products by staff, students, or visitors is prohibited at all times on school property or at school-sponsored events, 24 hours/day, 365 days/year. This includes but is not limited to, outdoor areas of school property, personal cars on school property, etc. In addition, school employees, school volunteers, contractors or other persons performing services on behalf of the school are prohibited from using tobacco products while on duty for Maggie L. Walker Governor's School off school grounds.

II. Definitions:

“Tobacco products:” any lit or unlit cigarette (including candy cigarettes), cigar, pipe, and any smokeless tobacco, dip, chew, and snuff in any form. This includes electronic cigarettes, cigarette packages, smokeless tobacco containers, lighters, and any other items containing or reasonably resembling tobacco, tobacco product images and tobacco company logos, such as key chains, t-shirts, ashtrays, and coffee mugs.

“Tobacco Use:” includes smoking, which means carrying or having in one's possession a lighted cigarette, cigar, pipe, or other object giving off or containing any substance giving off smoke; chewing spit tobacco, also known as smokeless tobacco, dip, chew, and snuff in any form. This includes electronic devices that emit nicotine vapor. The term “use” means the chewing, dipping, lighting, smoking and any other usage of any tobacco product.

“School Grounds and Property” – includes land, school facilities, and school vehicles owned or rented by the school. School grounds include parking lots, playgrounds and recreational areas. School property shall also include land, school facilities and other facilities owned by third parties during those times when the school has exclusive use and control.

III. Penalty

Employee

First Offense: a verbal warning will be issued to the staff member, the employee's supervisor will be notified, and referral to cessation services will be offered.

Second Offense: a written warning will be issued to the staff member, a copy will be placed in his or her personnel file, and referral to cessation services will be offered.

Third Offense: the employee will receive a letter advising that the violation is considered insubordination and shall be handled as a disciplinary matter.

Reference: Code of Virginia, §§ 22.1-125, 22.1-131; Pro-Children Act of 1994, 20 U.S.C. § 6081 et seq.

Visitors

First Request: violators shall be asked to cease immediately after being informed of the school's tobacco-free policy.

Second Request: if the violator fails to comply with the request, the violator shall be asked to leave school property.

Third Request: if the violator continues to violate the policy, a building administrator or other school supervisor shall make a decision on further action.

If the violator refuses to leave, the police may be called for assistance. Repeated violations may result in a recommendation to the executive director to prohibit the individual from entering school property.

Students

Refer to the following sections in the Student Handbook:

Section C of the Student Code of Conduct: Tobacco Products

Section Q of the Student Code of Conduct: Electronic Cigarette

IV. Posting of Signs

The school and/or Regional School Board facility shall post and maintain at all public entrances signs which clearly prohibit smoking in the building, on school grounds, in parking lots, and athletic facilities.

Adopted: October 17, 2019

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Amended: October 19, 2023

Cross Refs.:

Pol 5091/6009.1/4077

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