

Tobacco-Free School Policy

Research has shown that students addicted to tobacco products do not learn as well because they are focused on the need for more tobacco versus learning. In order to promote the health and safety of all students and school employees, optimal learning conditions, and the cleanliness of all facilities, the Fayette School Department School Committee, hereinafter referred to as the “Board,” prohibits the use of all tobacco products in the school building and on school buses during school-sponsored events. The policy will reflect and emphasize the hazards of tobacco use; assure compliance with state and federal laws; protect the health and safety of all students, employees and the general public; and role model a non-tobacco use environment by adults.

Use of Tobacco Products on School Property

Tobacco is a leading killer and leading cause of preventable deaths in Maine. To support and model a healthy lifestyle for our students the Board adopts the following tobacco-free policy;

- Fayette Central School building and property shall be tobacco-free 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. This includes all days when school is not in session and all functions taking place on school grounds.
- Maine law prohibits possession or use of tobacco products by anyone less than 18 years of age.
- Possession or use of tobacco products by students on district property or in school owned vehicles and at school-sponsored functions is prohibited.
- Sale or distribution of tobacco products by anyone is prohibited at all times on the school grounds.
- The use of tobacco products by all school employees on school property or in school vehicles, bus stops and at school-sponsored functions is prohibited.
- The use of tobacco products by all visitors on school property is prohibited. This includes non-school hours and all functions sponsored by the school or by others, including **any lessees or invitees**, on or off school property.
- Advertising of tobacco products is prohibited in school buildings, on school property, at school functions, and in all school publications. This includes clothing that advertises tobacco products

Communication of Policy

This policy will be printed in both employee and student handbooks on a yearly basis. Tobacco-free school signs will be posted in highly visible places both inside and outside the school building. Signs will be posted at all entrances to the school building, school playground and athletic fields. The maintenance staff will be responsible for maintaining signage. Parents and guardians shall be sent notification in writing, and the local media will be asked to communicate this tobacco-free policy community-wide. An announcement of the tobacco-free school policy will be made at all school events. Age-appropriate tobacco prevention education will be incorporated into the Fayette School Department's health education curriculum in alignment with the Maine Learning Results' Health Education Standards and will include awareness of the school policy.

First Reading: March 12, 2015

Adopted: April 9, 2015

Replaces: GBED and ADC