

Iroquois School District

Community Tobacco Control Policy

(Adopted: 04/20/2004)

PURPOSE:

Smoking has been identified as the number one health problem in the United States. It is the leading cause of premature death, disease, and chronic disability in our country. Smoking can be hazardous to the health of both smokers and non-smokers. For smokers, it can contribute to heart attack, stroke, high blood pressure, emphysema, and several forms of cancer. Non-smokers can be affected by breathing the toxic products that tobacco smoke adds to the air and the risks of developing preventable cause of mortality.

The Board recognizes that smoking during school hours and in school buildings and vehicles presents a health and safety hazard which can have serious consequences for the smoker and the non-smoker and the safety of District students and staff and is, therefore, a concern to the Board.

The Board welcomes the public at activities and events sponsored by the Iroquois School District and is sensitive to the concern expressed by students, staff, and community members as it promotes a tobacco free school district. The District's Mission Statement is in alignment with the rationale for a policy including the following:

1. It is inconsistent to teach about the dangers of using tobacco and allow adults to smoke in designated areas.
2. A tobacco-free policy supports and reinforces existing health education efforts.
3. Adult role models influence young people.
4. Prohibiting adult tobacco use de-emphasizes the importance, prestige, maturity and desirability often associated with tobacco use by young people.

DEFINITION:

For purposes of this policy, tobacco use shall be defined as all use of tobacco, including lighted cigars, cigarettes, pipes, other lighted smoking equipment or devices, and/or smokeless tobacco in any form.

GUIDELINES:

1. In order to protect District students and staff from an environment that may be harmful to them, and because the Board cannot, even by indirection, condone the use of tobacco because of its possible harm to personal well-being, the Board

prohibits tobacco use by any person at any time in a school building and on any property, and/or buses, vans and vehicles that are owned, leased or controlled by the District and/or at school sponsored activities that are held off school property.

2. The District Superintendent or designee shall annually notify members of the public about the District's tobacco use policy by publishing such in handbooks, newsletters, posted notices and other efficient methods.
3. Violations of the tobacco usage policy by the public will result in the following:
 - a. First Offense: Verbal warning by member of administration, game managers, or designated law enforcement personnel to discontinue tobacco use and a reminder that the violator will not be permitted to remain on school property if he/she does not immediately discontinue tobacco usage.
 - b. Second Offense: Second verbal warning by member of administration, game managers, or designated law enforcement personnel and a reminder that the violator will not be permitted to remain on school property if he/she does not immediately discontinue tobacco usage.
 - c. Third Offense: Failure to discontinue tobacco usage after two (2) verbal warnings will result in the individual being instructed to leave school property. Failure to comply will be considered trespassing.
 - d. Fourth Offense: Individuals will be reported to the jurisdictional police. Members of the general public violating this policy and refusing to comply shall be subject to prosecution for trespassing.