

Model Policy

BP 5131.62 TOBACCO

Note: [AS 18.35.20](#) prohibits the designation of smoking sections for students. It is unlawful for minors to give, sell, use, or possess cigarettes or other tobacco products. [AS 11.76.100-.105](#). Minors include all persons under 19 years of age.

Tobacco use presents a health hazard with serious consequences both for tobacco users and non-users alike. Students shall not be allowed to smoke, chew or possess tobacco or nicotine products on school property or during school hours, at school-sponsored events, or under the supervision of district employees.

For the purposes of this policy, "tobacco" is defined to include tobacco in any form and/or any nicotine delivering devices. This does not include FDA approved nicotine replacement therapy products used for the purpose of cessation.

Clothing, bags, hats and other personal items used by students to display, promote or advertise tobacco products are prohibited on district grounds, at school-sponsored activities or in district vehicles. Tobacco advertising is prohibited in all school-sponsored publications, in all school buildings, and at all school-sponsored events. District acceptance of gifts or funds from the tobacco industry is similarly prohibited.

Student violations of this policy will lead to disciplinary action up to and including suspension. The district [may] [shall] provide positive alternatives to suspension, such as in-school suspension, educational programs, school and community service, and promotion of cessation resources. Students may also be subject to removal from any or all extracurricular activities and/or denial or forfeiture of school honors or privileges (e.g., valedictorian, salutatorian, student body, class or club office positions, field trips, senior trip, prom, etc.). A referral to law enforcement [may] [shall] be made. Parents shall be notified of all violations involving their student and action taken by the school.

The District may provide instruction regarding the effects of tobacco use on the human body and may take steps to discourage students from tobacco use.

Staff responsible for teaching tobacco use prevention will be encouraged when funds/resources allow to collaborate with agencies and groups that conduct tobacco use prevention education and to participate in ongoing professional development activities that provide basic knowledge about the effects of tobacco use, effective instructional techniques and program-specific activities. As part of the district's tobacco use prevention activities, the Superintendent shall recommend to the curriculum committee the use of evidence-based instructional programs as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, or approved by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). Programs will be integrated within the health

education program and be age- and developmentally-appropriate. Instruction should be provided at every level, pre-kindergarten through grade 12, with particular emphasis on grades six through eight.

(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion)

Note: [AS 14.30.360](#) encourages the establishment of a comprehensive health education.

(cf. 5142 - Safety)

(cf. 3513.3 - Tobacco-free Schools/Smoking)

Legal Reference:

ALASKA STATUTES

[11.76.100-.105](#) *Selling or giving tobacco to a minor; possession of tobacco by a minor*

[14.30.360](#) *Curriculum (Health and Safety Education)*

[18.35.300 - 18.35.330](#) *Health nuisances (smoking)*

Revised 3/2012

9/92