

LEBANON SCHOOL DISTRICT

POLICY: 222

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: POSSESSION OR USE OF TOBACCO

ADOPTED: July 18, 1994

REVISED: February 17, 1997

February 17, 2004

October 20, 2014

September 17, 2018

222. POSSESSION OR USE OF TOBACCO

Purpose

The Board recognizes that smoking presents a health hazard which can have serious consequences for both the smoker and the nonsmoker, is a safety and environment risk of the schools and is, therefore, of concern to the Board.

Definition

For purposes of this policy, tobacco use shall be defined as use and/or possession of a lighted or unlighted cigarette, cigar, pipe, or other lighted or unlighted smoking product; electronic cigarettes; vapor producing instruments; smokeless tobacco in any form; and tobacco paraphernalia (lighters, matches, etc.).¹

Electronic cigarettes are defined as battery-operated products designated to deliver nicotine, flavor, and other chemicals by turning the substance into a vapor that is inhaled by the user.

Authority

The Board prohibits tobacco use and possession 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 school district.²

The Board prohibits tobacco use and possession by students at any school-sponsored/related function regardless of location.

¹ 18 Pa.C.S.A. 6306.1.

² 35 P.S. 1223.5; 22 Pa. Code. 12.3; 20 U.S.C. 7181 et. seq.

The school district shall initiate discipline of a student who possesses or uses tobacco in violation of this policy.

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or designee shall annually notify students, parents/guardians and staff about the district's tobacco use policy by publishing information about the policy in the Standards Handbook or other efficient methods.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop procedures to implement this policy.

Guidelines

The first offense shall carry an after school detention of eight (8) consecutive school days, each one (1) hour in length. The principal or his/her designee shall contact the parent or guardian by letter giving notification of the school policy violation and the treatment of the violator.

For subsequent offenses, the principal or his/her designee shall suspend the student from school for a three-day period and a parent conference shall be necessary before the student may be readmitted. The parent or guardian shall be notified in writing when any subsequent offense is committed.

Students may also be assigned to attend a Pennsylvania Department of Health approved cessation program.

Habitual offenders may be recommended to the Superintendent for a hearing before the Board at the discretion of the principal or his/her designee.

The number of incidents of possession, use and sale of tobacco in violation of this policy by any student on school property shall be reported by the principal to the Director of Student Services.³

A student convicted of possessing or using tobacco in violation of this policy may be fined up to \$50 plus court cost or admitted to alternative adjudication in lieu of imposition of fines.⁴

³ 24 P.S. 1303-A.

⁴ 18 Pa.C.S.A. 6306.1.