

TOBACCO FREE SCHOOL POLICY  
SAUGUS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Saugus Public Schools' School Committee, in accordance with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Educational Reform Act of 1993, Chapter 71, Section 37H recognizes that the use of tobacco products, including vaping products, is a health, safety, and environmental hazard for students, staff, visitors, contracted personnel/workers, and school facilities. The Committee is acutely aware of the serious health risks associated with the use of tobacco/vaping products, both to users and non-users. The Committee embraces its obligation to promote positive role models in schools, and to provide an environment for learning and working that is safe, healthy, and free from unwanted smoke, and tobacco use for students, staff, and visitors.

POLICY

It shall be a violation of this policy for any student of the Saugus Public Schools to possess, consume, display, or sell any tobacco products, tobacco-related devices, electronic cigarettes, vaping products, or vaping –related devices at any time on school property or at off-campus, school sponsored events.

It shall be a violation of this policy for any staff, administrator, contracted personnel/worker, or visitor of the Saugus Public Schools to consume, display, or sell any tobacco products, tobacco-related devices, vaping products, vaping related devices, or electronic cigarettes at any time on school property or at off-campus, school sponsored events.

DEFINITIONS

The term “any time” means during normal school and non-school hours.

The term “vaping device” means any oral device that provides a vapor of liquid nicotine, and/or other substance, and the use of inhalation of which simulates smoking, including, e-cigarettes, e-cigars, e-pipes, e-hookah, vaping devices or devices under any other product name or descriptor.

The term “school property” means all property under control of the school district, whether owned, rented, or leased including but not limited to all vehicles.

The term “tobacco product” means any product(s) containing, made, or derived from tobacco that are intended for human consumption, whether chewed, smoked, absorbed, dissolved, inhaled, snorted, sniffed, or ingested by any means including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, little cigars, dry snuff, moist snuff (snus), and chewing tobacco.

The term “tobacco related devices” means ashtrays, cigarette papers or pipes for smoking or any components, parts, or accessories of electronic cigarettes including cartridges.

## Enforcement

The success of this policy will depend upon the thoughtfulness, consideration, and cooperation of both tobacco-users and non-users. All individuals on school premises including students, staff, administrators, visitors, delivery personnel, workers/contractors, anyone contracting with the school department to use a building share in the responsibility for adhering to and enforcing this policy.

The consequences for violating this policy will be as follows for the different groups:

**Student Violations:** Student violations of Tobacco Uses Policy will be handled in accordance with the discipline code published in the student agenda books at each grade level: elementary school, middle school, and high school.

**Faculty and Staff Violations:** Employees of the Saugus Public Schools who are found in violation of this policy will be subject to progressive discipline which will include a verbal warning for the first offense, a written reprimand for the second offense, and an unpaid, one day suspension for the third offense.

**Contracted personnel/workers (tradesmen)** who are found to be in violation of this policy will be reported to an immediate supervisor for the appropriate disciplinary action.

**Visitors:** Visitors found using tobacco/ vaping products on school property will be asked to cease. If they persist in violating the policy, they will be asked to leave the premises.

It shall be a violation of this policy for the Saugus Public Schools to solicit or accept any contributions, gifts, money, curricula, or materials from the vaping/electronic cigarette industry, tobacco industry, tobacco-related device industry, or from any tobacco/ vaping products shop.

Approved by the School Committee: 8/30/01

Revised and Amended: October 15, 2017

1<sup>st</sup> Read: October 26, 2017

2<sup>nd</sup> Read: November 30, 2017