



## **POLICY 7.19**

**4-D** I recommend that the Board adopt the proposed revised Policy 7.19, entitled "Tobacco Free Environment."

[Contact: Dianne Howard, PX 48414.]

### **Adoption**

### **CONSENT ITEM**

- The Board approved development of this revised Policy at the development reading on February 22, 2012.
- This revised policy provides for the School District to become a tobacco-free environment, effective on July 1, 2012.
- The 2011 Florida Legislature revised Sec. 386.209, FS, to allow school districts to restrict smoking by persons on district property.
- The revised policy prohibits smoking on school property and at school sponsored events by students, employees, volunteers, contractors and visitors.
- Revisions provide for notification of the tobacco free environment, education and cessation programs for students and employees; prohibits tobacco promotions; and provides for discipline of students and employees who violate the policy.

## POLICY 7.19

### TOBACCO PRODUCTS FREE ENVIRONMENT

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3 1. **Purpose**

4 The School Board of Palm Beach County (Board) recognizes that the use of  
5 tobacco products is a health, safety, and environmental hazard for students,  
6 employees, parents, visitors, and school facilities. The School Board believes that  
7 the use of tobacco products on school grounds, in school buildings and facilities,  
8 on school property or at school-related or school-sponsored events is detrimental  
9 to the health and safety of students, employees, and visitors. Smoking and other  
10 uses of tobacco products are detrimental to health and a significant contributor to  
11 medical issues and death. Thus, the purpose of this policy is to establish that  
12 the Palm Beach County School District (District) maintains a tobacco-free  
13 environment, to provide for notification to the District employees, students and the  
14 public; and to provide an effective date of the policy.

15 2. **Applicability of Policy**

16 This policy applies to students, employees, volunteers, parents, spectators, and  
17 visitors.

18 3. **Definitions**

19 For the purposes of this policy, the following definitions shall apply.

20 a. At any time means during normal school and non-school hours: 24 hours a  
21 day, seven days a week, 365 days a year.

22 b. Electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) means any oral device that provides a vapor  
23 of liquid nicotine, lobelia, and/or other substance, and the use or inhalation of  
24 which simulates smoking. The term shall include any such devices, whether  
25 they are manufactured, distributed, marketed or sold as e-cigarette, e-cigars,  
26 e-pipes, or under any other product name or descriptor.

27 c. Tobacco product means any lighted or unlighted cigarettes, cigars, clove  
28 cigarette, blunts, bidis, pipes, hookah, chewing tobacco, snuff, and any other  
29 items containing or reasonably resembling tobacco or tobacco products.

30 d. Off-campus, school-sponsored event means any event sponsored by the  
31 school or school district that is not on school property, including but not limited  
32 to, sporting events, day camps, field trips, seminars, dances, or theatrical  
33 productions.

34 4. **Policy Statement**

35 No student, employee, volunteer, contractor or school visitor is permitted to use  
36 tobacco products of any kind or electronic cigarettes at any time in, on, or during  
37 the following:

- 38 a. any building, facility, or vehicle owned, leased, or rented by the District;  
39 b. any school grounds and property, including all schools, district offices, athletic  
40 fields, practice fields, playgrounds, parking lots, administrative offices,  
41 maintenance, transportation areas, etc., owned, leased, rented, or chartered  
42 by the District; and/or;  
43 c. at any off-campus, district or school-sponsored event.

44 5. **Exception**

45 A school principal may permit tobacco products to be included in counseling,  
46 educational, instructional or research activities in the school building; provided that,  
47 the activity is conducted or supervised by a District employee overseeing the  
48 instruction or research and the activity does not involve smoking, chewing, or  
49 otherwise ingesting the tobacco product.

50 6. **Notification of Policy and Implementation**

51 Appropriate signage will be posted in a manner and location on all District property  
52 that adequately notifies employees, students, parents, visitors and the public of  
53 this policy.

54 7. **Tobacco Promotion Prohibited**

55 Tobacco advertising is prohibited on school grounds, in all school-sponsored  
56 publications, on District vehicles and buses, and at all school-sponsored events.  
57 Tobacco promotional items that promote the use of tobacco products, including but  
58 not limited to, clothing, bags, lighters and other tobacco articles are not permitted  
59 on school grounds, in school-sponsored publications, in school vehicles or at  
60 school sponsored events.

61 8. **Educational and Cessation Programs**

- 62 a. Prevention Education for Students. The administration will consult with  
63 Student Intervention Services and other appropriate health organizations to  
64 identify and provide programs or opportunities for students to gain a greater  
65 understanding of the health hazards of tobacco use and the impact of tobacco  
66 use as it relates to providing a safe, orderly, clean, and inviting school  
67 environment. The administration will ensure that students in grades K-12

68 receive tobacco prevention education using sequential, age appropriate,  
69 current, accurate, evidenced based curricula and a skills-based approach  
70 (involving students in active "hands on" learning experiences).

71 b. Cessation Support Programs. The administration will consult with  
72 Student Intervention Services, Palm Beach County Health Department,  
73 Employee Wellness in Risk & Benefits Management, American Lung  
74 Association and other appropriate health organizations to provide students  
75 and employees with information and access to support systems, tobacco use  
76 cessation programs, and services to encourage them to abstain from the use  
77 of tobacco products.

78 **9. Responsibility of School Administrators**

79 a. Communicate this policy verbally to students, employees, family members,  
80 volunteers and visitors, at school events, through signage, and school  
81 handbooks.

82 b. Treat violators who are students or employees with disciplinary actions  
83 consistent with Board policies.

84 c. Ensure that family members, volunteers or visitors who violate the policy  
85 discontinue using the tobacco product or electronic cigarette, or leave the  
86 premises. Law enforcement officers may be contacted to escort the person off  
87 the premises or cite the person for trespassing if the person refuses to leave  
88 the school property.

89 d. Include the prohibition as provided in this policy in contracts with outside  
90 groups who use the school buildings and other facilities.

91 **10. Disciplinary Actions for Students or Employees Violators**

92 a. Students. Consequences for students engaging in the prohibited behavior  
93 will be provided in accordance with the school's student behavior management  
94 plan. In accordance with the School District's Discipline Matrix, the  
95 administration will offer violators an Alternative to Suspension (ATS) Program.  
96 The ATS program will provide accurate, up-to-date information on the many  
97 consequences of tobacco use, offer techniques that students can use to stop  
98 tobacco use at school, and provide referrals to local youth tobacco cessation  
99 programs. Parents/guardians will be notified of all violations and actions taken  
100 by the school. Suspension will only be used after a student has two or more  
101 prior violations or refused to participate in an Alternative to Suspension  
102 Program.

103 b. Employees. Consequences for employees who violate the tobacco use  
104 policy will be in accordance with personnel policies or any relevant collective

105 bargaining agreement.

106 11. Effective Date of Policy

107 This policy shall take effect in full on July 1, 2012.

108 ~~The following policy has been adopted to conform with Florida's Clean Indoor Air Act:~~

109 1. ~~Smoking is prohibited inside all School Board Facilities and all School Board vehicles.~~

110 2. ~~Adult smoking areas may be designated on School Board campuses outside of School Board~~  
111 ~~Facilities. The area so designated must be at least 50 feet from any exit door.~~

112 3. ~~Non-adult student use of tobacco products is prohibited on school campuses, at school sponsored~~  
113 ~~functions or on school buses.~~

114 4. ~~For purpose of this policy, an adult is an individual 18 years of age or older.~~

115 5. ~~Modifications~~

116 ~~By electing to provide designated smoking areas on School Board campuses but not in School~~  
117 ~~Board facilities, the Board shall not be required to make fixed structural or other physical~~  
118 ~~modifications in providing these areas.~~

119 6. ~~Posting of Signs and Policy~~

120 ~~The principal/department head shall post this policy in a conspicuous location~~

121 STATUTORY AUTHORITY: Fla. Stat. §§ 1001.41; 1001.42; ~~230.22(2), FS (State Law~~  
122 ~~Effective 10/1/92)~~

123 LAWS IMPLEMENTED: Fla. Stat. §§ 386.209 ~~230.23(4)~~

124 HISTORY: April 6, 1982; December 11, 1985; September 16, 1992; \_\_/\_\_/2012

Legal Signoff:

The Legal Department has reviewed proposed Policy 7.19 and finds it legally sufficient for adoption by the Board.

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Attorney

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Date