



POLICY 7.19

5-E I recommend that the Board approve development of the proposed **revised** Policy 7.19, entitled "Tobacco Free Environment."

[Contact: Dianne Howard, PX 48414.]

Development

CONSENT ITEM

- This revised policy provides for the School District to become a tobacco-free environment, effective on January 2, 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.** The School Board of Palm Beach County (School Board) recognizes
4 that the use of tobacco products is a health, safety, and environmental hazard for
5 students, employees, parents, visitors, and school facilities. The School Board
6 believes that the use of tobacco products on school grounds, in school buildings
7 and facilities, on school property or at school-related or school-sponsored events is
8 detrimental to the health and safety of students, employees, and visitors. Smoking
9 and other uses of tobacco products are detrimental to health and a significant
10 contributor to medical issues and death. Thus, the purpose of this policy is to
11 establish that the Palm Beach County School District (District) maintains a tobacco-
12 free environment, to provide for notification to the public and to District employees
13 and student; and to provide an effective date of the policy.
- 14 2. **Applicability of Policy.** This policy applies to students, employees, volunteers,
15 parents, spectators and visitors.
- 16 3. **Definitions.** For the purposes of this policy, the following definitions shall apply.
 - 17 a. At any time means during normal school and non-school hours: 24 hours a
18 day, seven days a week, 365 days a year.
 - 19 b. Electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) means any oral device that provides a vapor
20 of liquid nicotine, lobelia, and/or other substance, and the use or inhalation of
21 which simulates smoking. The term shall include any such devices, whether
22 they are manufactured, distributed, marketed or sold as e-cigarette, e-cigars,
23 e-pipes, or under any other product name or descriptor.
 - 24 c. Tobacco product is any lighted or unlighted cigarettes, cigars, clove cigarette,
25 blunts, bidis, pipes, hookah, chewing tobacco, snuff, and any other items
26 containing or reasonably resembling tobacco or tobacco products.
 - 27 d. Off-campus, school-sponsored event means any event sponsored by the
28 school or school district that is not on school property, including but not limited
29 to, sporting events, day camps, field trips, seminars, dances, or theatrical
30 productions.
- 31 4. **Policy Statement.** No student, employee, volunteer, contractor or school
32 visitor is permitted to use tobacco products of any kind or electronic cigarettes at
33 any time in, on or during the following:
 - 34 a. Any building, facility, or vehicle owned, leased, or rented by District.

- 35 b. Any school grounds and property – including all schools, district offices,
36 athletic fields, practice fields, playgrounds, parking lots, administrative offices,
37 maintenance, transportation areas, etc. – owned, leased, rented, or chartered
38 by the District.
- 39 c. At any off-campus, school-sponsored event.
- 40 5. **Exceptions.** A school principal may permit tobacco products to be included in
41 counseling, educational or instructional or research activities in the school building
42 if the activity is conducted or supervised by a District employee overseeing the
43 instruction or research and the activity does not involve smoking, chewing, or
44 otherwise ingesting the tobacco product.
- 45 6. **Notification of Policy and Implementation.** Appropriate signage will be posted
46 in a manner and location on all District property that adequately notify employees,
47 students, parents, visitors and the public of this policy.
- 48 7. **Tobacco Promotion Prohibited.** Tobacco advertising is prohibited on school
49 grounds, in all school-sponsored publications, and at all school-sponsored events.
50 Tobacco promotional items that promote the use of tobacco products, including but
51 not limited to: clothing, bags, lighters and other articles are not permitted on school
52 grounds, in school vehicles or at school sponsored events.
- 53 8. **Educational and Cessation Programs.**
- 54 a. Prevention Education for Students. The administration will consult with
55 Student Intervention Services and other appropriate health organizations to
56 identify and provide programs or opportunities for students to gain a greater
57 understanding of the health hazards of tobacco use and the impact of tobacco
58 use as it relates to providing a safe, orderly, clean, and inviting school
59 environment. The administration will ensure that students in grades K-12
60 receive tobacco prevention education using sequential, age appropriate,
61 current, accurate, evidenced based curricula and a skills-based approach
62 (involving students in active "hands on" learning experiences).
- 63 b. Cessation Support Programs. The administration will consult with
64 Student Intervention Services, Palm Beach County Health Department,
65 Employee Wellness in Risk & Benefits Management, American Lung
66 Association and other appropriate health organizations to provide students
67 and employees with information and access to support systems, tobacco use
68 cessation programs, and services to encourage them to abstain from the use
69 of tobacco products.
- 70 9. **Responsibility of School Administrators.**
- 71 a. Communicate this policy verbally to students, employees, family members,

72 volunteers and visitors, at school events, through signage, and school
73 handbooks.

74 b. Treat violators who are students or employees with disciplinary actions
75 consistent with School Board policies.

76 c. Ensure that family members, volunteers or visitors who violate the policy
77 discontinue using the tobacco product or electronic cigarette or leave the
78 premises. Law enforcement officers may be contacted to escort the person off
79 the premises or cite the person for trespassing if the person refuses to leave
80 the school property.

81 d. Include the expectation that the prohibition will be enforced in contracts with
82 outside groups who use the school building and other facilities.

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

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

95 b. Employees. Consequences for employees who violate the tobacco use
96 policy will be in accordance with personnel policies or any relevant collective
97 bargaining agreement.

98 11. **Effective Date of Policy.** This policy shall take effect in full on January 1,
99 2012.

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

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

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

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

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

107 5. ~~Modifications~~

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

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

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

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

115 LAWS IMPLEMENTED: Fla. Stat. §§ 386.209 ~~230.23(4), FS~~

116 HISTORY: April 6, 1982; December 11, 1985; September 16, 1992; __/__/2011

Legal Signoff:

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

Attorney

Date