

TOBACCO FREE SCHOOLS

The Rapid Area School District recognizes its duty to promote the health and safety of students, staff and citizens on district property and during school-sponsored activities. In accordance with this responsibility, it is the intent of the School Board to establish a tobacco-free school environment that demonstrates a commitment to helping students resist tobacco use and that emphasizes the importance of adult role modeling.

The use, possession, or promotion of tobacco on school property or during school-sponsored activities is prohibited. This policy shall be in effect at all times and shall apply to all students, employees and visitors.

For the purposes of this policy:

1. "Tobacco" means any substance or item, in any form, containing tobacco;
2. "School property" means all district-owned, rented or leased buildings, grounds and vehicles;
3. "School-sponsored activity" means any planned, organized, endorsed, or supervised activity involving district students or staff that occurs either before, during or after regular school hours;
4. "Promotion" means the use or display of tobacco-related clothing, bags, lighters, or other material that is designed to encourage the acceptance or use of tobacco.

Students or district employees found in violation of this policy will be subject to appropriate consequences, which may involve a range of enforcement options including disciplinary action and educational alternatives to disciplinary action. Visitors in violation of this policy will be informed of the policy and asked to dispose of tobacco products. Failure to comply could result in being directed to leave school property.

The superintendent shall provide reasonable public notification of the district's policy, including, but not limited to, inclusion in student and staff handbooks. The superintendent may develop administrative regulations as necessary to implement this policy.

Adopted 05/06/10
Reviewed 08/10/15
Reviewed 02/22/16

Legal References:

SDCL 22-36-2 - Smoking in public place or place of employment prohibited
SDCL 13-8-39 - Management of schools by board - General powers

Rapid City Area School District No. 51-4, Rapid City, South Dakota