

Restorative Enforcement of Tobacco/Vape-Free Policies Disciplinary Guidelines

Disciplinary strategies will emphasize assisting the violator with smoking/vaping addiction recovery (cessation) to improve the student's health and reduce future violations. Students in violation of the tobacco policy will be given a list of resources on tobacco cessation programs. Any costs for these programs will be the responsibility of the student and/or the student's family.

Information regarding no-cost tobacco treatment and recovery resources such as the Maine QuitLink Line (1-800-QUIT-NOW or visit www.MaineQuitLink.com) will be made available to those individuals who use tobacco or vape products and are interested in quitting. This includes vaping support services such as the Vaping Quit Support Line (1-844-9NO-VAPE or NoVape@TheQuitLink.com) and the Youth Texting Program (text Maine to 88709 or visit www.vapefreemaine.com).

The Superintendent or designee shall refer to a law enforcement agency any student reasonably suspected of selling, dispensing, or distributing tobacco or vape products.

A. Student Violations

1st and 2nd Violations

- a. The first or second violations shall result in confiscation of tobacco or vape products and paraphernalia, tobacco- or vape-related devices, imitation tobacco products, other nicotine products, lighters and/or electronic nicotine delivery systems.
- b. Parents/legal guardians shall be sent written notice regarding the tobacco or vape violation, which shall be signed by the parent/legal guardian and returned to the school.
- c. At least one of the following will be required:
 - i. A student meeting and individual student assessment with a health provider or a designated staff to discuss commercial tobacco use or vaping and the school policy;
 - ii. Student participation in a tobacco/vape education or cessation program;
or
 - iii. Provision of information to the student and family/guardian about available tobacco/vape cessation programs and resources.
- d. Other disciplinary measures might be taken as determined necessary by the Administration and consistent with school policies and procedures.

Third and Any Subsequent Violation

- a. The third and any subsequent violation shall result in confiscation of tobacco or vape products and paraphernalia, tobacco- and vape/related devices, imitation tobacco products, lighters and/or electronic nicotine delivery systems; notification of parents and guardians; the provision of information to the student about available cessation programs; student participation in a tobacco/vape education or cessation program; possible restriction of extracurricular activities; and at least one of the following:
 - i. A student meeting and individual student assessment with a health provider or a designated staff with parents and/or guardians to discuss commercial tobacco use, vaping and school policy; or
 - ii. Education community service.
- b. Other disciplinary measures might be taken as determined necessary by the Administration and consistent with school policies and procedures.

B. Other Persons in Violation

All other persons violating this policy, such as employees or visitors, immediately shall be reminded politely that this is a tobacco/vape-free campus. They will be directed to cease violative behavior. If the behavior continues, the person will be asked to leave campus. Failure to leave school grounds may be treated as trespassing and law enforcement personnel may be contacted. In addition, all persons suspected of selling, distributing or in any way dispensing tobacco products or paraphernalia to students shall be referred to a law enforcement agency.

Any employee violating this policy shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary measures up to and including dismissal. Any school unit employee suspected of selling, distributing or in any way dispensing tobacco products or vaping devices/products to students shall be referred to a law enforcement agency.

Legal Reference: 22 MRSA 1578-B

Cross Reference: LD152 Maine’s Updated Tobacco and Vaping Prevention Law

Adopted: January 14, 1911
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