

**24/7 SMOKE FREE/ TOBACCO FREE ENVIRONMENT POLICY**

Smoking, distribution, and the use or possession of tobacco or tobacco products or paraphernalia used with tobacco and tobacco products is prohibited on school property, in school vehicles, in personal vehicles while on school property, and while attending or traveling to and from any school-sponsored or authorized function.

It is specifically directed that this ban on the use of tobacco products will be in effect 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and will apply to all students, employees, visitors, and anyone providing service to the schools with the exception of training provided by Canadian Valley Technology Center as required by government contract. When required by a government contract, the designated smoking area must be away from general traffic areas and completely out of sight of children under eighteen (18) years of age and can be used only by adults attending those training sessions.

Additionally, students are prohibited from possession or distributing tobacco products or simulated tobacco products in school buildings, on school grounds, in school-owned vehicles, and at all school affiliated functions on or off school campus.

Employees are prohibited from use or distribution of; tobacco products or simulated tobacco products in school buildings, on school grounds, in school-owned vehicles, and at all school affiliated functions on or off school campus.

**Definitions**

1. "School Property" is defined as all property owned, leased rented or otherwise used by any school in this district, including but not limited to the following:
  - a. All interior portions of any building or other structure used for instruction, administration, support services, maintenance or storage.
  - b. All school grounds over which the school exercises control including areas surrounding any building, playgrounds, athletic fields, recreation areas and parking areas.
  - c. All vehicles used by the district for transporting students, staff, visitors, or other persons.
2. "Tobacco" is defined as cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, and all other kinds and forms of tobacco prepared in such manner to be suitable for chewing, smoking, or both.
3. "Simulated Tobacco Products" are defined as products that imitate or mimic tobacco products, including, but not limited to cloves, bidis, kretks, and vapor smoking, with or without nicotine.
4. "Use" is defined as lighting, chewing, dipping, inhaling, or smoking any tobacco as defined within this policy.

Advertising of tobacco products on school property, school publications, and video-TV productions is prohibited. This prohibition also includes gear, paraphernalia, clothing, ect. that display and/ or promote tobacco products. Rush Springs School District will not accept donations of gifts, money, or materials from the tobacco industry. This district will not participate in any type of services, events, or programs that are funded by the tobacco industry or promote student scholarships provided by the tobacco industry.

Signs will be posted in prominent places on school property to notify the public that smoking or other use of tobacco products is prohibited. The success of this policy will depend on the cooperation and consideration of smokers/ tobacco users and non-smokers/ tobacco users. All individuals on school property share in the responsibility for adhering to and enforcing this policy. Those found in violation will be informed that they are in violation of board policy, and in the case of tobacco and/ or tobacco products, state law. Any individual who observes a violation on school property may report it in accordance with the following procedures:

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**Students-** Any violation of this policy by students will be referred to the site administrator. Site administrators shall inform both students and parents that failure to comply with the policy may result in confiscation of paraphernalia and/ or suspension from classes and school activities.

**Employees-** Any violation of this policy by staff will be referred to the appropriate supervisor. Continued violations will constitute willful neglect of duty and will be dealt with accordingly based on established policies and procedures for suspension, demotion, dismissal, and non-renewal of employee.

**Visitors and General Public-** Visitors who are observed smoking or using tobacco products on school district property will be asked to refrain from smoking or using tobacco on school property. If the individual fails to comply with the request, such violation of policy may be referred to the site administrator or other school district supervisory personnel responsible for the area or program during which the violation occurred. The site administrator or supervisor shall make a decision on further action that may include a directive to leave school property. Repeated violations may result in a recommendation of the Superintendent to prohibit the individual from entering school district property for a specified period of time. If deemed necessary by the school administration, local law enforcement officials may be called upon to assist with enforcement of this policy with regard to removal of violators of this policy.

Rush Springs School District will promote and provide tobacco cessation information, resources, materials, and/ or support thru the Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline (1-800-QUIT-NOW) to ensure awareness of the statewide services that are available all students, parents, staff, and campus visitors.

The District will communicate and promote the available tobacco cessation benefits and insurance coverage for employees to all prospective employees, new employees at the time of hire, and all existing employees on an annual basis.