

POLICY

Board of Education Bernards Township

File Code: M 5533
SMOKING

The Board of Education recognizes the use of tobacco presents a health hazard that can have serious implications both for the smoker and the nonsmoker and that smoking habits developed by the young may have lifelong deleterious consequences.

For purposes of this policy, "smoking" means the burning of a lighted cigar, cigarette, pipe or any other matter or substance that contains tobacco and the use of smokeless tobacco and snuff.

For the purposes of this policy, "school grounds" means and includes land, portions of land, structures, buildings, and vehicles when used for the provision of academic or extracurricular programs by the district or community provider and structures that support these buildings, including, but not limited to administrative buildings, kitchens, maintenance shops, and garages. "School grounds" also includes other facilities as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:26-1.2, playgrounds, and other recreational places owned by the local municipalities, private entities, or other individuals during those times when the school district has exclusive use of a portion of such land.

The Board prohibits smoking by pupils at any time on any school grounds as defined above, at events sponsored by the Board away from school, and on any transportation vehicle supplied by the Board.

Notice that smoking is prohibited on school grounds as defined above will be posted at each public entrance in accordance with law. The Principal of each school building is authorized to report violations, in accordance with law, to the Board of Health. Failure to report violations may subject the Principal to fines in accordance with N.J.S.A. 26:3D-20. The Building Principal will not be liable for a fine if he/she has taken reasonable steps to enforce the prohibition on smoking in school buildings or on school grounds. Pupils who violate the provisions of this policy shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary measures.

The Board directs that the health curriculum include instruction in the potential hazards of the use of tobacco. Staff members shall, by example and persuasion, make every reasonable effort to discourage pupils from developing the habit of smoking.

N.J.S.A. 18A:40A -1
N.J.S.A. 26:3D-15 through 26:3D-20
N.J.A.C. 6A:16-1.3

Cross reference: Policy Guides Nos. 5250, 7434

ADOPTED: October 26, 2009