

USE OF TOBACCO

It is the belief of the New Hanover County Board of Education (Board) that the use of tobacco is harmful to general health. Further, the improper use of these products poses a potential safety hazard in public facilities. In addition, the board believes that adults in the school environment should be positive role models for students.

For these reasons, the Board desires that all New Hanover County Schools facilities and properties be free from the use of tobacco products. The use of tobacco products in or on New Hanover County Schools facilities or property was prohibited on July 1, 1994.

The Board of Education believes that a smoke/tobacco-free environment will better protect the health and well being of employees and students of the New Hanover County School System and of other persons. To this end, the Board will prohibit or restrict smoking and the use of tobacco products.

School Employees, volunteers and visitors to the school may not at any time use or display tobacco products on school premises or at any school-sponsored events, both indoor and outdoor, and both off and on school property. The prohibition of display of tobacco products shall not extend to a display that has a legitimate instructional or pedagogical purpose.

School employees, volunteers and visitors to the school may not at any time display or use any tobacco product in school vehicles.

No employee or visitor shall be permitted under any circumstances to use tobacco products in any indoor facility owned or leased, or contracted for, by the New Hanover County Schools.

The Board is committed to creating safe, orderly, clean and inviting schools for all students and staff. The Board also supports state laws that prohibit the selling or distribution of tobacco products to minors and federal law prohibiting smoking in all school buildings.

For purposes of this policy, "tobacco product" is defined to include cigarettes, cigars, blunts, bidis, pipes, chewing tobacco, snuff, and any other items containing or reasonably resembling tobacco or tobacco products. "Tobacco use" includes smoking, chewing, dipping, or any other use of tobacco products.

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New Hanover County Public Schools, Wilmington, North Carolina