

5131.62 Tobacco and Related Products

The Governing Board recognizes that smoking, tobacco use, and use of related products present serious health risks and desires to provide support and assistance in the prevention and intervention of such use among youth.

Students shall not possess, smoke, or use tobacco or any product containing tobacco or nicotine or related device or product, while on campus, while attending school-sponsored activities, or while under the supervision and control of District employees. Tobacco-related devices or products prohibited under this policy include and product containing tobacco or nicotine, including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, miniature cigars, clove cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chew packets, betel, electronic cigarettes, electronic hookahs, and other vapor-emitting devices (including those that vaporize a nicotine product or other substance with or without nicotine content) that mimic the use of tobacco products. (Education Code 48900, 48901)

These prohibitions do not apply to a student's possession or use of his/her own prescription products. (Education Code 48900, 48901)

Prevention Instruction

The district's comprehensive prevention/intervention program shall be based on an ongoing assessment of objective data regarding tobacco use in the schools and community and on research identifying strategies that have proven effective in preventing or reducing use of tobacco and related products use among youth. The program shall be designed to meet a set of measurable goals and objectives and shall be periodically evaluated to assess progress.

The district shall provide developmentally appropriate prevention instruction about the use of tobacco and related products for students at selected grade levels from K-12. Such instruction shall be aligned with state content standards and the state curriculum framework for health education and with any requirements of state and/or federal grant programs in which the district participates.

Intervention / Cessation Services

The district may provide or refer students to counseling, intensive education, and other intervention services to assist in the cessation of tobacco and related product use. When appropriate, such intervention services may be provided as an alternative to suspension for the violation of this policy. Information about smoking cessation programs shall be made available and encouraged for students and staff. (Health and Safety Code 104420)

Program Planning

The district's tobacco and related products use prevention and intervention program shall be based on an assessment of problems related to such use in District schools and the community, an examination of existing services and activities in the community, and a determination of high-risk student populations that are most in need of District services.

The Superintendent or designee shall coordinate with the local health department and county office of education in program planning and implementation. He/she may establish an advisory council including students, parents/guardians, District staff, representatives of the local health department and community organizations, law enforcement professionals, and/or others with demonstrated expertise in tobacco prevention and cessation of the use of these products.

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The Superintendent or designee also shall coordinate the District's tobacco and related products use prevention and intervention program with other District efforts to reduce students' use of illegal substances and to promote student wellness.

The Superintendent or designee shall select prevention programs based on the model program designs identified by the California Department of Education (CDE) and may modify the model to meet district needs. (Health and Safety Code 104420)

The Superintendent or designee shall not accept for distribution any materials or advertisements that promote the use or sale of tobacco or nicotine products or related products or devices. He/she also shall not accept prevention or intervention funds or materials from the tobacco industry, any related industry such as e-cigarettes or vapor devices, or from any entity which has received funding from these industries.

Program Evaluation

To evaluate the effectiveness of the district's program and ensure accountability, the Superintendent or designee shall biennially administer the California Healthy Kids Survey or other appropriate student survey at selected grade levels in order to assess student attitudes toward tobacco and student use of tobacco. He/she also shall annually report to the Board, and to the CDE if required, the data specified in Health and Safety Code 104450.

The results of program evaluations shall be used to refine program goals and objectives and make changes as needed to strengthen program implementation.

Board Approved:

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