

HOPKINTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE POLICY

SMOKING AND USE OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS PROHIBITED

POLICY STATEMENT:

The Hopkinton School Committee is dedicated to providing a healthy, comfortable, and productive environment for staff, students, and citizens. The School Committee believes that education plays a critical role in establishing life-long health habits for its students. A comprehensive health curriculum K-12 emphasizing the dangers of tobacco, drugs, and alcohol remain major goals for the school district. The Hopkinton School Committee also has a strong interest in the health of its employees and in their serving as positive role models for students. Therefore, the Committee will promote non-smoking among its staff, employees, students, and all visitors pursuant to this policy promulgated under M.G.L. c.71, §37H.

POLICY:

Smoking and the use of tobacco products of any type are prohibited on school property (buildings and grounds), and at school-related events and in school vehicles.

1. The use or possession of tobacco products of any type and/or smoking-related materials by students is prohibited on school property (school buildings and grounds) and at school-related events twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven days a week.
2. The use of tobacco products of any type on school property by school employees and visitors is prohibited twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week.
3. The use of tobacco products of any type by students, staff, or visitors is prohibited from use within school owned/contracted/leased vehicles, twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week.

DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES:

Students:

Students found smoking or in possession of tobacco products may be suspended from school for up to 5 days (loss of credit may occur). Additionally:

1st Offense

The student will be fined \$100.00 per M.G.L. c.40, §21D and Article II, Sections 1-4 of the Bylaws of the Town of Hopkinton. The student will be issued a written warning that a school policy has been violated and the parents/guardian will be notified. The student will be required to attend two (2) tobacco education sessions with the school nurse within two (2) weeks of the infraction. Community service may be assigned in lieu of a fine.

2nd Offense

The student will be fined \$200.00 per M.G.L. c.40, §21D and Article II, Sections 1-4 of the Bylaws of the Town of Hopkinton. The student will be issued a written warning that a school policy has been violated for a second time and parents/guardian are notified. The student will be

required to participate in and successfully complete an educational program provided by the school or an alternative cessation program within the next school calendar term. Community service may be assigned in lieu of a fine.

A school provided tobacco education program, which will not be a cessation model, will be offered on a regular basis.. The school program is intended to help bring a pre-contemplative tobacco user to the point where he or she may be ready to consider quitting. The school program will offer the participant the opportunity to “teach back” what is learned to peer groups.

3rd Offense

The student will be fined \$300.00 per M.G.L. c.40, § 21D and Article II, Sections 1-4 of the Bylaws of the Town of Hopkinton. The parents/guardian will be notified in writing and will be required, along with the student, to meet with a school administrator. Community service may be assigned in lieu of a fine.

Employees:

Employees are subject to being fined for non-compliance with this policy per M.G.L. c.40, § 21D and Article II, Sections 1-4 of the Bylaws of the Town of Hopkinton. Additionally:

1st Offense

A verbal reprimand from the Administrator will be considered the employee’s first notification.

2nd Offense

A written warning will be issued from the Administration with a copy of this written warning being placed in the employee’s personnel file.

3rd Offense

The employee will receive a one (1) day suspension resulting in loss of a day’s pay.

Citizens:

Citizens who are observed smoking or using tobacco products on school property will be asked to refrain from smoking and the use of tobacco products while on school property and reminded that we are required by law to keep school premises tobacco free. If the individual fails to comply with the request, it may be deemed necessary to call upon the local law enforcement agency to enforce this policy. Citizens are subject to being fined for non-compliance with this policy per M.G.L. c.40, §21D and Article II, Sections 1-4 of the Bylaws of the Town of Hopkinton.

Adoption Date: May 16, 2002

Replaces Policy #1330 adopted 12/9/93

Hopkinton School Committee
Hopkinton, Massachusetts