

1. Rationale

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) endeavours to provide and maintain learning and working environments which safeguard the health and welfare of students and employees. Such environments are to be free from the harmful effects of smoke, vapour (aerosol), cannabis, and tobacco industry-related products (including e-cigarettes, vaporizers, and other nicotine products), and uphold the legislation to the broader community.

2. Policy

This policy is primarily governed by the *Smoke Free Ontario Act 2017* (SFOA), which prohibits smoking or the holding of lit tobacco products (including e-cigarettes, vaporizers, and other nicotine products) and smoking or the holding of lit cannabis products on all school premises and places of work.

It is the policy of the SCDSB to prohibit smoking or vaping and the use of tobacco, tobacco industry products, emerging tobacco industry products, tobacco industry-related products (including e-cigarettes, vaporizers and other nicotine products), cannabis, cannabis industry products, cannabis-related products, and any smoking paraphernalia. This applies to all school board employees, students, trustees, contractors, parents/guardians, volunteers, permit holders, and visitors on school board property (including in personal vehicles), or when at off-property locations during school board and school related events (e.g., field trips).

In accordance with the SFOA, this policy acknowledges that exceptions are made for the traditional use of tobacco that forms part of Indigenous culture. When a member of the board's Indigenous community requests to use tobacco for traditional Indigenous cultural purposes, every effort will be made to accommodate these practices in an appropriately designated space, separate from any area where smoking is otherwise permitted.

3. Guidelines

3.1 All members of the school community are responsible for not smoking, vaping, or using tobacco, tobacco industry products, emerging tobacco industry products, tobacco industry-related products (including e-cigarettes, vaporizers, and other nicotine products), cannabis, cannabis industry products, cannabis-related products, and any smoking paraphernalia:

3.1.1 on school board property;

3.1.2 in personal vehicles on school board property; and,

3.1.3 off-property locations during school board and school related events.

3.2 The board shall ensure that this policy, its guidelines, and related procedures have been communicated to all permit, contract, and lease holders.

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4. Administrative procedures

The Director of Education is authorized to provide the administrative procedures necessary to implement this policy.

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