

TOBACCO-FREE SCHOOLS POLICY

PHILOSOPHY: The Phenix City Board of Education believes that all students, employees, parents, and visitors have the right to be in a school environment that promotes, enhances, strives to become, and maintains a drug free School District. Because of the high degree of evidence available, the Board views smoking and other uses of tobacco and tobacco products as being detrimental to health and a significant contributor to lung, heart, mouth and other associated diseases. The Board also considers the area of personal health as being a primary objective of education. It is also the belief of the Board that School District employees will, by example, demonstrate to the students they serve their concerns of the dangers inherent in the use of these products.

Therefore, in accordance with Administrative Code of Alabama 290-3-1.02-.01, Regulations Governing Public Schools, paragraph 2, which states, "Adopt a uniform policy prohibiting the use of tobacco products on school property and prescribing specific penalties for violating this policy, the Board adopts this Tobacco-Free Schools Policy effective immediately.

GENERAL TOBACCO POLICY STATEMENT: All persons are prohibited from using tobacco products of any kinds on all school properties at any time and at any school sponsored event.

- School properties include but are not limited to public school, vocational, maintenance, and athletic buildings, campus grounds, parking lots, athletic stadiums and fields, in school owned or leased buses, vans and other vehicles.
- This policy applies to everyone; students, employees, volunteers, parents, spectators, and visitors.
- This policy is in effect 24 hours a day and at school sponsored events, on and off school property including students and employees traveling to and from school sponsored events in school owned or leased buses, vans, and other vehicles.
- In addition to tobacco use, students are prohibited from the possession of tobacco products and wearing tobacco advertising, logos, etc. on campus or at school sponsored events.
- School principals and other work site supervisors as may be designated are directed to post tobacco free signs at the entrance of all school buildings and on the grounds of school property as a tobacco free campus.
- Announcements are encouraged to be made at school sponsored or other community events held on the school campus to remind and educate the general public of the tobacco-free schools policy.

ENFORCEMENT: Any student or employee violating this policy will be disciplined in accordance with the intent of this policy statement and any other applicable student or employee handbook or district policy. Refer to the student or employee handbook or related policies for disciplinary actions, offenses and occurrences.

In addition, Alabama Act 97-423 Youth Access to Tobacco Products states, "Any tobacco or tobacco product found in the possession of a minor is contraband and subject to seizure by law enforcement. Any minor violating Section 28-11-13 shall be issued a citation similar to a uniform non-traffic citation and shall be fined not less than ten dollars (\$10) or more than fifty dollars (\$50) for each violation."

Any member of the general public violating this policy will be asked to cease and desist or be subjected to removal from school property by the appropriate local authorities for trespassing.

The Phenix City Board of Education shall visibly post any and all Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) notices required by law and a notice of the Board's commitment to a discrimination-free workplace in an area frequented by employees and applicants for employment. Further, the Board shall issue this Equal Employment Opportunity policy to all supervisors and administrators employed by the Board.

References: Code of Alabama 16-11-9, 16-12-3, Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990

3.45 PROHIBITION OF TOBACCO USE IN SYSTEM FACILITIES

The Phenix City Board of Education prohibits the use or possession of tobacco in any form (cigarettes, cigars, pipes, vapor or e-cigarettes, chewing tobacco, snuff, or any other form of tobacco or nicotine) by students, faculty, support personnel, or any other person on school property under the control of the Phenix City Board of Education. This includes, but is not limited to, a public school building, Phenix City Board of Education central office, bus maintenance building, bus, campus, recreational area, athletic field, parking, or other area.

Parents/guardians and other persons are hereby notified they are prohibited from use or possession of tobacco in any form on Phenix City School System property at any time.

School principals and other work site supervisors as may be designated are directed to post signs at the entrance of all school buildings and on the grounds of Phenix City School System property designating the school property as a tobacco-free facility.

Phenix City Board of Education employees found in violation of this policy are subject to disciplinary actions not limited to: reprimand, suspension pending a hearing, and termination of employment.

References: Code of Alabama 16-11-9, 16-12-15, Alabama Administrative Code §290-3-1-.02(1)(B)(2)

3.46 PROHIBITION OF VIOLENCE, THREATS OF VIOLENCE (ANTI-BULLYING)

No student shall engage in or be subjected to harassment (bullying), violence, threats of violence, or intimidation on or off of school property by any other student that is based on any of the specific characteristics identified by the Phenix City Board of Education in this policy. Students who violate this policy are subject to

circumstances may result in a recommendation for expulsion. If this occurs, the expulsion procedures in this document will be followed.

Any student assigned to the CARE Program for 10 or more days or assigned to the Phenix City Success Academy for any length of time will not be permitted to participate in any extra-curricular/co-curricular activities until returning to the regular school program (reporting to regular classes). Participation after returning to the regular school program will be at the discretion of the sponsor/coach of the extra-curricular/co-curricular activity.

INTERMEDIATE OFFENSES - CLASS II

- 2.01 Defiance of authority - Any verbal or non-verbal refusal to comply with reasonable orders or directions from school personnel;
- 2.02 Possession and/or use of tobacco products or paraphernalia - Having or using tobacco products or paraphernalia (lighters, matches, etc.) on the school premises or in any school-sponsored activity;

Possession and/or use of electronic smoking devices or paraphernalia - Having or using e-cigarettes, e-cigs, electronic nicotine delivery systems, vaporizer cigarettes, vape pens, etc, on the school premises or in any school-sponsored activity. (Class II 1st offense/subsequent offenses may be categorized as Class III);
- 2.03 Assault and/or threat by act or word to do violence to a school board employee (Moved to Class III Offense 3.18);
- 2.04 Harassment/Bullying of Students - Intentionally harassing, touching, striking, or causing bodily harm to another student. (See Glossary: Harassment/Bullying);
- 2.05 Fighting - Any physical conflict between two or more students (Moved to Class III Offense 3.21);
- 2.06 Stealing, Larceny, Petty Theft - Intentional, unlawful taking or carrying away of public or personal property valued at less than \$100;
- 2.07 Property Damage/Vandalism - Intentional, deliberate damage of less than \$100 to public or personal property;
- 2.08 Possession of stolen property with the knowledge that it is stolen;
- 2.09 Threats - Extortion - Maliciously threatening, verbally or in writing, to injure the person, property, or reputation of another with the intent to extort money or gain any advantage whatsoever; and/or intentionally attempting to force the threatened person or any other person to do an act against his/her will;

need to ask students if their parents would object before allowing them to participate in any media coverage.

Deliveries to School

In order to maintain the integrity of the school instructional program, the delivery of flowers, balloons, etc. to students at school is prohibited.

School Questionnaires

At certain times during the year, the school must obtain information from parents with regards to the students. When these questionnaires are sent home, they should be returned promptly and with the necessary information in an accurate and concise manner. Parents should make a habit of automatically informing the school of new telephone numbers or addresses. These are important especially in the case of an emergency.

Tobacco Restrictions

The use of tobacco products is prohibited on all school property. No individual will use tobacco in the presence of students at any school function (on or away from the school site).

Notification Regarding Asbestos-Containing Material (Public Law 99-519)

The United States Environmental Agency has established regulations regarding asbestos containing materials in school buildings. These regulations (Public Law 99-519) require certain action to occur in response to any asbestos containing material found in our schools. The Phenix City Board of Education has had an asbestos management program in place for several years. The Phenix City Board of Education had a re-inspection performed at all of their facilities in compliance with these regulations, and an asbestos management plan was developed. The plan describes in detail how any asbestos will be minimized. Students, parents, teachers, and others are invited to review this plan available in the principal's or director's office. Should you have any questions or desire further information, please contact the principal.