



SMOKE FREE ENVIRONMENT

Consistent with The Non-Smokers Health Protection and Vapour Products Amendment Act (Prohibiting Cannabis Consumption in Outdoor Public Places) of the Province of Manitoba, smoking inclusive of tobacco, cannabis, smokeless tobacco, e-cigarettes, and vapourizers (vapes), shall not occur in school and Division buildings, school and Division grounds and vehicles, and Division or school sponsored activities. The success of this policy will depend on the consideration and cooperation of all individuals in the system, all of whom share a responsibility for adhering to and enforcing this policy.

Purpose

- To provide a smoke free environment for students and staff.
- To enhance the general health and performance of all person in the Division by eliminating smoking.
- To educate students on the hazards of smoking.
- To promote non-smoking as the norm.

Education

An ongoing educational program which will promote a smoke free life-style will be provided for students during health classes. Materials prepared by the Manitoba Heart Foundation, the Canadian Cancer Society and Manitoba Health will be used to supplement curricular information.

Smoking Cessation Programs available from the above organizations will be made available to students and employees requesting assistance.

Enforcement

A. Students

Students who break the Smoke Free Environment policy are to be disciplined in the following manner:

- First offence –one day suspension
- Second offence –two day suspension
- Third offence –three day suspension
- Fourth and subsequent offence –refer to Superintendent's department and/or Board.

After each offence, the parent(s)/guardian(s) will be notified and a suspension report will be prepared. After the third offence in a school year, referral is to be made to the Superintendent.



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An offence beyond the third may result in an extended suspension of up to six weeks and/or further action by the Board of Trustees.

B. Employees

As with any other infraction of Division policies, progressive discipline measures will be applied with employees who do not adhere to the no-smoking policy.

First offence –discussion between the administrator and employee regarding the policy and consequences.

Second offence –written reprimand by the administrator and documentation placed in the personnel file, with a copy to the School Board and the employee.

Third offence –referral to the Senior Administration for disciplinary action with information provided to the School Board. Any offence beyond the third will result in suspension for three days without pay. Further offences will result in termination of employment for insubordination.

C. Community Groups

All community groups using the facilities of the Portage la Prairie School Division will be required to comply with this policy. Non-compliance will result in a reminder, to be followed with the loss of the group's privilege to use the facilities.

D. Visitors

All visitors are required to comply with this policy.