100% Tobacco-Free Policies in North Carolina School Districts

School districts all over North Carolina are reviewing their old tobacco use policies and adopting a "gold standard" 100% tobacco-free school policy – one that prohibits all tobacco use, by everyone, everywhere on campus, at all times. A number of school districts are using the model policies that have been developed by the NC Tobacco Prevention and Control Branch in collaboration with the NC Department of Public Instruction and the North Carolina School Board Association. Others have modified current policies so that they include the provisions of the gold standard policy. Below are some actual 100% tobacco-free school policies that have been adopted by school districts around the state.

- Asheville City School District
- Bertie County School District
- Chapel Hill - Carrboro City School District
- Cumberland County School District
- Guilford County School District
- Hickory City School District
- Orange County School District
- Pender County School District
- Polk County School District
- Rowan-Salisbury School District

NORTH CAROLINA Health Wellness TRUST FUND

NC Tobacco Prevention and Control Branch

Asheville City School District
Adopted: June 15, 1998
Revised: December 4, 2000

Tobacco Use

The Board of Education believes that a smoke/tobacco-free environment will better protect the health and well-being of employees and students of the Asheville City School System and of other persons. To this end, the Board will prohibit or restrict smoking and the use of tobacco products as follows:

- Students may not possess, display, or use any tobacco product at any time on school premises, including school vehicles or while participating in school events, both indoor and outdoor and both on and off school property.
- School employees, volunteers and visitors to the school may not at any time use or display tobacco products on school premises. School employees and volunteers attending in an official capacity may not use tobacco or tobacco products at school events both on and off campus. The prohibition of display of tobacco products shall not extend to display that has a legitimate instructional or pedagogical purpose.
- School employees and volunteers to the school may not at any time display or use any tobacco products in school vehicles.
- No student, employee or visitor shall be permitted under any circumstances to use tobacco products in any indoor facility owned or leased or contracted for by the Asheville City Schools.

The administration will consult with the county health department and other appropriate organizations to provide employees with information and access to support systems and programs to encourage employees to abstain from the use of tobacco products. The school district will, from time to time, provide free non-smoking clinics to be offered to employees in the schools, after the regular school day.

Tobacco Products

The Board is committed to creating safe, orderly, clean and inviting schools for all students and staff. The Board also supports state laws that prohibit the selling or distribution of tobacco products to minors and federal law prohibiting smoking in all school buildings.

For purposes of this policy "tobacco product" is defined to include cigarettes, cigars, blunts, bidis, pipes, chewing tobacco, snuff, and any other items containing or reasonably resembling tobacco or tobacco products. "Tobacco use" includes smoking, chewing, dipping, or any other use of tobacco products.

Prohibited Behavior

In support of the board's commitments and state and federal law, students are prohibited from using or possessing any tobacco product or tobacco paraphernalia such as lighters or matches, unless it has a legitimate instructional or pedagogical purpose (1) in any school building, school vehicle or on the school grounds at any time; (2) at any school-related activity, including athletic events; (3) at any time when the student is subject to the supervision of school personnel, including school trips.

Consequences

Consequences for engaging in prohibited behavior will be provided in accordance with the school's student behavior management plan (see policy 4302, School Plan for Management of Student Behavior). In providing consequences for violation of the policy, school officials are encouraged to identify programs or opportunities for students to gain a greater understanding of the health hazards for the tobacco user and the impact of tobacco use on efforts to provide a safe, orderly, clean and inviting school environment.

Bertie County School District

Adopted: August 4, 2003

The Bertie County School Board recognizes that the use of tobacco products is a health, safety, and environmental hazard for students, employees, visitors, and school facilities. The Board acknowledges that adult employees and visitors serve as role models for students and that the Board's acceptance of any use of tobacco products implies school approval, if not endorsement, of such use. In addition, the Board recognizes that it has an obligation to promote positive role models in schools and promote a healthy learning and working environment, free from unwanted smoke, for the students, employees, and visitors to the school campus. Finally, the board recognizes that it has a legal obligation pursuant to Title X of Public Law 103-227 to provide schools that are smoke-free.

Accordingly, the Board enacts the following:

1. Students may not possess, display, or use any tobacco product at any time on school premises, including school vehicles or while participating in school events, both indoor and outdoor and both off and on school property.
2. School employees, volunteers, and visitors to the school may not at any time use or display any tobacco product on school premises, or at any school-sponsored events, both indoor and outdoor, and both off and on school property. The prohibition of the display of tobacco products shall not extend to a display that has a legitimate instructional or pedagogical purpose.
3. School employees and volunteers to the school may not at any time display or use any tobacco product in school vehicles.
4. No student, employee, or visitor shall be permitted under any circumstances to use tobacco products in any indoor facility owned or leased or contracted for by the Bertie County Schools.

For the purposes of this policy, "tobacco product" is defined to include cigarettes, cigars, blunts, bidis, pipes, chewing tobacco, snuff, and any other items containing or reasonably resembling tobacco or tobacco products. "Tobacco use" includes smoking, chewing, dipping, or any other use of tobacco products.

The administration will identify programs or opportunities for students to gain a greater understanding of the health hazards of tobacco use and the impact of tobacco use on efforts to provide a safe, orderly, clean and inviting school environment.

Chapel Hill - Carrboro City School District

The Board of Education promotes the health and safety of all students and staff and the cleanliness of all school facilities. To this end, the Board will prohibit smoking and the use of tobacco products as follows:

1. The use of tobacco products by any person in any school building or district facility, in school vehicles and on school grounds at any time is prohibited.
2. School district employees while on duty, but off school grounds, may not use tobacco products in the presence of students.
3. The administration will consult with the county health department and other appropriate organizations to provide employees with information and access to support systems and programs to encourage employees to abstain from the use of tobacco products. The school district will, from time to time, provide free

non-smoking clinics to be offered to employees in the schools, after the regular school day.

Legal Reference: 20 U.S.C. 6081-6084
Pro-Children Act of1994
G.S. 115C - 47(18)

Cumberland County School District
Adopted: January 14, 2003
Effective: July 1, 2003

The Cumberland County School Board recognizes that the use of tobacco products is a health, safety and environmental hazard for students, employees, visitors and school facilities. The Board acknowledges that adult employees and visitors serve as role models for students and that the Board's acceptance of any use of tobacco products implies school approval, if not endorsement, of such use. In addition, the Board recognizes that it has an obligation to promote positive role models in schools and promote a healthy learning and working environment, free from unwanted smoke, for the students, employees and visitors to the school campus. Finally, the Board recognizes that it has a legal obligation pursuant to Title X of Public Law 103-277 to provide schools that are smoke-free.

Accordingly, the Board enacts the following:

1. Students may not possess, display, or use any tobacco product at any time on school premises, including school vehicles or while participating in school events, both indoor and outdoor and both off and on school property.
2. School employees, volunteers and visitors to the school may not at any time use or display any tobacco product on school premises, to include in the presence of or possible visibility of students. This prohibition also includes any school-sponsored events, both indoor and outdoor, and both off and on school property. The prohibition of display of tobacco products shall not extend to display that has a legitimate instructional or pedagogical purpose.
3. School employees and volunteers to the school may not at any time display or use tobacco product in school vehicles.
4. No student, employee or visitor shall be permitted under any circumstances to use tobacco products in any indoor facility owned or leased or contracted for by the Cumberland County Schools.

For the purposes of this policy, “tobacco product” is defined to include cigarettes, cigars, blunts, bidis, pipes, chewing tobacco, snuff, and any other items containing or reasonably resembling tobacco or tobacco products. “Tobacco use” includes smoking, chewing, dipping, or any other use of tobacco products.

Legal Reference: G.S. 115C-47; P.L. 103-227

Guilford County School District

The use of tobacco products on or in any school property, or at any school sponsored activity or event (regardless of location) is prohibited.

The policy will be strictly enforced as follows:

1. Employees in violation of this policy will be subject to disciplinary action.
2. Student discipline for infractions will continue to be as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct.
3. Others who violate this policy will be asked to appropriately dispose of tobacco products. If they do not promptly comply, they will be asked to leave school property immediately.

Strict enforcement’s of Sections (1) and (3) above will begin on April 17, 2001.

Hickory City School District

The Board recognizes that smoking is a health and safety hazard which can have serious consequences for the smoker and the non-smoker and can compromise the safety of the Board’s facilities. Concern for safety and for the protection of the school system environment for all persons under this policy. The Board acknowledges, also, the desirability and importance of its adult agents serving as non-tobacco using role models for its clients, almost all of who are below the legal age to consume tobacco. This policy is adopted wit the expectation that when it is implemented, Hickory City Schools will be tobacco-free.

The smoking of tobacco in cigarettes, cigars, or pipes and the use of smokeless tobacco are prohibited twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, in all Hickory City Schools’ buildings, buses and other vehicles and on school grounds. The

prohibition applies to all students, staff, employees, visitors, guests, patrons, vendors, and their agents. A staff member shall not smoke or use smokeless tobacco at school functions while in direct supervision of students.

The Board encourages students and staff to participate in school and community programs designed to prevent and cure tobacco addition.

Orange County School District

Adopted: July 1, 2003

The Board of Education believes that a smoke/tobacco-free environment will better protect the health and well-being of employees and students of the Orange Country School System and of other persons. To this end, the Board of Education will prohibit or restrict smoking and the use of tobacco products as follows:

- Students may not possess, display, or use any tobacco product at any time on school premises, including school vehicles or while participating in school events, both indoor and outdoor and both on and off school property.
- School employees, volunteers and visitors to the school may not at any time use or display tobacco products on school premises. School employees and volunteers attending in an official capacity may not use tobacco or tobacco products at school events both on and off campus. The prohibition of display of tobacco products shall not extend to display that has a legitimate instructional or pedagogical purpose.
- School employees and volunteers to the school may not at any time display or use any tobacco products in school vehicles.
- No student, employee or visitor shall be permitted under any circumstances to use tobacco products in any indoor facility owned or leased or contracted for by the Orange County Schools.

The administration will consult with the county health department and other appropriate organizations to provide employees with information and access to support systems and programs to encourage employees to abstain from the use of tobacco products. The school district will, from time to time, provide free non-smoking clinics to be offered to employees in the schools, after the regular school day.

Pender County School District
Adopted: September 12, 1998
Revised: October 7, 2002

The Board recognizes that the use of tobacco products is a health, safety and environmental hazard for students, employees and school facilities. The Board also acknowledges that adult employees serve as role models for students and that the Board's acceptance of any use of tobacco products implies school approval, if not endorsement, of such use. In addition, the Board recognizes that it has an obligation to promote a healthy learning and working environment, free from unwanted smoke, for the students and employees in the school system. Finally, the Board recognizes that it has a legal obligation pursuant to Title X of Public Law 103-227 to provide for schools that are smoke free.

Accordingly, the Board enacts the following:

- **6431.1** Students may not possess, display, or use any tobacco product at any time on school premises, including school vehicles, or while participating in school sponsored events.
- **6431.2** School employees may not display any tobacco product in the presence of or possible visibility of students on school premises or at school sponsored events. The prohibition of the display of tobacco products shall not extend to display that has a legitimate instructional or pedagogical purpose.
- **6431.3** No student, employee, or visitor shall be permitted, under any circumstances to use tobacco products in any facility or on any premises owned or leased or contracted for by the Pender County Schools and utilized for provision of educational services to children.
- **6431.4** Penalties for violation of this policy are set at the discretion of the building principal and may include such things as in-school suspension, after school detention, or out-of-school suspension.

For purposes of this policy "tobacco product" is defined to include cigarettes, cigars, pipes, chewing tobacco, snuff, and any other items containing or reasonably resembling tobacco or tobacco products. "Tobacco use" includes smoking, chewing, dipping, or any other use of tobacco products.

Legal Reference: G.S. 115C-47; P.L. 103-227

Polk County School District

Adopted: August 2, 1992
Revised: December 11, 1995 (recodified from GAFE), (recodified from 6640)
Revised: August 13, 2001

The Board believes that a tobacco-free environment will better protect the health and well being of employees and students of Polk County Schools and of other persons. As an educational organization, the district recognizes a responsibility to provide educational programs and positive examples concerning the harmful effects of tobacco use.

Recognizing the negative impact of tobacco use, the Board declares all facilities and property operated by Polk County Schools, and all spaces within them, to be officially designated tobacco-free. Staff, students and visitors are expected to observe this restriction at all times.

Policy Code: 7250
Legal Reference: 20 U.S.C. 6081-6084
Pro-Children Act of 1994
G.S. 115C-47(18); 143-597 to –601

Rowan-Salisbury School District

Adopted: August 1, 1990
Revised: October 12, 1998

The school curriculum teaches the harmful effects of tobacco. Medical evidence clearly shows that the use of tobacco poses a significant risk to the health of the user. Furthermore, new research indicates that exposure to secondhand smoke may seriously threaten the health of nonsmokers.

1. The use of tobacco will be prohibited on any property of the Rowan-Salisbury School System.
2. Rowan-Salisbury School System employees may not use or display tobacco products in any form in any school buildings or on any school grounds.
3. Rowan-Salisbury School System employees may not use or display tobacco in any form when supervising or directing students during any school sponsored activity. This extends also to field trips and to athletic events away from Rowan-Salisbury School System.
4. A violation will be recorded in each individual's evaluation.