

Tobacco Free School

The Education Reform Act of 1993 requires all public schools to become smoke-free. Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 71, sections 2A and 37H prohibit the use of any tobacco products within the school buildings, the school facilities, the school grounds or on school buses by any individual, including school personnel. The law also makes it unlawful for any student, enrolled in either primary or secondary public schools in the commonwealth, to use tobacco products of any type on school grounds during normal school hours. In addition the Hamilton Wenham Regional School District prohibits the use of tobacco, tobacco products, or smoking paraphernalia at school-sponsored events, on school trips (while in-school groups), or at school bus stops. Smoking paraphernalia includes but not limited to: cigarettes, snuff, chewing tobacco, pipes, and cigarette papers. These tobacco prohibitions extend to all property controlled by the school committee and to all individuals who are present on such property.

The Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District is committed to providing students with a positive learning environment that encourages students to focus on personal health for life. The district also encourages staff to focus on their personal health and to recognize that they are role models for students. Therefore, the district supports a no use policy on tobacco products. Tobacco cessation support programs are offered as needed for staff.

The following procedures and regulations will be implemented in the enforcement of the Tobacco Free School Policy of the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District:

Students

Any alleged violation of this policy by any student(s) shall result in the student(s) being referred to the building administrator. Students who violate the provisions of this policy shall be subject to building discipline procedures as outlined in the student handbook.

School Personnel

This law supersedes negotiated contracts for school personnel. Any alleged violation of the policy by staff shall be referred to the appropriate supervisor.

Visitors

Visitors who violate the Tobacco Free Policy will be asked to abide by the policy or leave the premises.

Originally Adopted: March 13, 1997

Policy Review: December 1, 2011

Approved: December 1, 2011

Vote: 9-0-0

Chairperson, HWRSD School Committee: Alexa McCloughan
(Original Signature on file in the Superintendent's Office)