

Marion County Board of Education			
Monitoring: Review: Annually, in September	Descriptor Term: Smoke-Free and Tobacco-Free Schools	Descriptor Code: 1.803	Issued Date: 1/12/26
		Rescinded: 1.803	Revised: 04/21/01

The Marion County Board of Education prohibits students, staff and visitors from using, promoting or selling any tobacco product on all Marion County Board of Education owned property, at any school or district-sponsored event, whether on or off-campus, and in any publicly owned or leased district vehicle.¹

The use of any tobacco product shall also be prohibited at all other times, places and events at, on, about or conducted at, on or about school grounds in any public seating areas including, but not limited to, bleachers used for sporting events, the areas immediately adjoining the bleachers/athletic fields/gymnasiums or auditoriums, and public restrooms.²

Tobacco products include but are not limited to cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, chewing tobacco, snuff, snus, smokeless tobacco, electronic smoking devices and/or associated paraphernalia. Students are prohibited from possessing or displaying tobacco products at any time and at any location on district property or at any off-campus, school- or district-sponsored event and in district vehicles.

All employees of Marion County Board of Education and students enrolled in the district's schools will not be permitted to use tobacco or tobacco products, including smokeless tobacco, electronic cigarettes and associated paraphernalia while they are participants in any class or activities in which they represent such schools or the Marion County Board of Education.

No one on behalf of the district may solicit or accept any contributions, gifts or money from the tobacco industry to include, but not be limited to, donations, monies for sponsorships/scholarships, advertising, promotions, loans or support for equipment, uniforms and sports and/or training facilities. No one on behalf of the district may solicit or accept curricula or other educational materials of any kind that are created by or with input from the tobacco industry.

Age-appropriate, evidence-based, cross-curricular school-based tobacco product education shall be included in the education provided to all students in K-12 in the district at least once per year.

Parents and students shall be notified of this policy at the beginning of each school year.

Signs will be posted throughout the district's facilities to notify students, employees and all other persons visiting the school that the use of tobacco and tobacco-related products, including smokeless tobacco and electronic/battery-operated devices, is forbidden. The following notice shall be prominently posted (including at each ticket booth) for elementary and secondary school sporting events:

This is a tobacco-free campus. The use of tobacco products, including battery-operated devices, is prohibited on school property at all times. This policy shall be in effect whether or not school is in session. ¹

The school principal shall be responsible for administering appropriate disciplinary actions for possessing or using tobacco products, including electronic/battery-operated devices, according to a progressive discipline schedule. Disciplinary procedures should start with less punitive consequences and progress with each violation. Each step of the discipline schedule should include referral to cessation resources or programs such as the Tennessee Tobacco QuitLine. The administration will consult with the county health department and other appropriate health organizations to provide students and employees with information and referral to support systems, programs and services to encourage them to abstain from the use of tobacco products.

Consequences for employees who violate the tobacco use policy will be in accordance with established personnel policies. Visitors using tobacco products will be asked to refrain while on school property or leave the premises. Law enforcement officers may be contacted to escort the person off the premises or cite the person for trespassing if the person refuses to leave the school property. Forfeiture of any fee charged for admission will be enforced for visitors violating this policy..

Legal References:

1. Section 1042 of the Environmental Tobacco Smoke/Pro-Children Act of 1994
2. TCA 39-17-1604(6)(10); TCA 39-17-1605; TCA 39-17-1606