GREATER ESSEX COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Policy: Health – Student

Reference No: P-AD-59

The Greater Essex County District School Board (GECDSB) believes that schools are to practice and provide safe and consistent measures to address the needs of our students' health. This includes, but is not limited to the administration of medication, prevalent medical conditions*, and concussions.

Our goals are:

- to support students with prevalent medical conditions* to fully access school in a safe, accepting, and healthy learning environment that supports well-being;
- to empower students with prevalent medical conditions* as confident and capable learners, to reach their full potential for self-management of their medical condition(s), according to their Plan of Care;
- to support families in feeling confident that their child is safe at school and during school related activities;
- to administer consistent prescription medication by school staff or by a student who is under the care of a physician. Board employees generally should not be involved with administering consistent prescription medication to students unless it is a specific requirement of their job description or the principal designates the responsibility. For particular students there may be exceptions to this rule.

*As outlined in Policy/Program Memorandum No. 161 (February 28, 2018) *Supporting children and students with prevalent medical conditions (anaphylaxis, asthma, diabetes, and/or epilepsy) in Schools"* prevalent medical conditions are limited to asthma, diabetes, epilepsy, and anaphylaxis, as diagnosed by a medical doctor or a nurse practitioner.

Additionally, GECDSB is guided by legislative requirements as stipulated in but not limited to, Sabrina's Law (2005), Ryan's Law (2015), Rowan's Law (2016) and Ministry Policy/Program Memorandum No. 81 *Provision of Health Support Services in School Settings* (July 19, 1984).

Related Regulations:
Administration of Prescription Medication (R-AD-17)
Anaphylaxis and Epinephrine Injector (R-AD-18)
Inhaler for Treatment of Asthma (R-AD-50)
Diabetes Protocol (R-AD-60) *new*
Epilepsy (R-AD-61) *new*
Concussion (R-AD-49)

Greater Essex County District School Board

Regulation: Smoke Free Environment

Reference No: R-AD-62

General Principles

The Greater Essex County District School Board (the "Board") recognizes that all students and their families, volunteers, and staff should have a safe and healthy learning and working environment. The Board recognizes that a safe and healthy environment is one that is free from the harmful effects of using and/or smoking tobacco products, cannabis (other than medical cannabis by authorized medical cannabis users), and/or related tobacco, cannabis or vapour product accessories, including by way of electronic cigarettes, and one that is free from the harmful effects of second-hand smoke.

This Regulation complies with the *Smoke-Free Ontario Act*, *2017*, S.O. 2017, c. 26, Sched. 3 and its Regulations (SFOA) (as amended from time to time) and aligns with the Board's Safe Schools Policy, Equity and Inclusive Education Policy, Human Rights Policy, Board/ Police Protocol, Inhaler for Treatment of Asthma Regulation and Human Resources Policies and Regulations.

Other goals of this Regulation are as follows:

- Prevent students from starting to use tobacco, vapour or cannabis products (with the exception of medical cannabis by authorized medical cannabis users) by limiting access and acceptability.
- Support students and staff to make healthy lifestyle choices.
- Support students and staff who are trying to quit using tobacco, vapour or cannabis products.
- Promote positive tobacco-free and imitation tobacco-free role models.
- Reinforce school-based tobacco, vapour product, imitation tobacco and cannabis prevention education.

Application

This Regulation applies to staff, students, volunteers, visitors, and permit-holders using or on-Board property and in workplaces, including childcare centres, early years' centres, and/or Board-owned or leased vehicles. This Regulation also applies to vehicles contracted by or on behalf of the Board. References herein to Board property will be inclusive of workplaces, as defined in the SFOA.

Definitions

The following definitions apply to this Regulation, consistent with the SFOA, 2017 and associated Regulations:

“Board property” refers to any property owned or occupied or used by the Board, including administrative and non-administrative buildings, schools (and their surrounding property), Board owned or leased vehicles and machinery including Board paid transportation vehicles. Temporary structures erected on Board property are also considered Board property.

"Cannabis” has the same meaning as set out in section 2(1) of the *Cannabis Act* (Canada);

“Children’s playground” is a naturalized play space which the public is ordinarily invited or permitted access either expressly or by implication, which is primarily used for the purpose of children’s recreation and could be equipped with children’s play equipment, such as slides, swings, climbing apparatuses, or sandboxes. (It is not an enclosed public space or an enclosed workplace.)

“Electronic Cigarette” means a vaporizer or inhalant-type device, whether called an electronic cigarette or any other name, that contains a power source and heating element designed to heat a substance and produce a vapour intended to be inhaled by the use of the device, directly through the mouth, whether or not the vapour contains nicotine;

“Use” of an electronic cigarette includes (1) inhaling vapour from an electronic cigarette, (2) exhaling vapour from an electronic cigarette, (3) holding an activated electronic cigarette;

“E-substance” means a substance that is manufactured or sold to be used in an electronic cigarette;

“Enclosed workplace” means (a) the inside of any place, building or structure or vehicle or conveyance or part of any of them (i) that is covered by a roof, (ii) that employees work in or frequent during the course of their employment whether or not they are acting in the course of their employment at the time; and (iii) that is not primarily a private dwelling.

“Medical cannabis” means cannabis that is obtained for medical purposes in accordance with Part 14 of the *Cannabis Regulations* (Canada) or a court order;

“Medical cannabis user” means an individual who is authorized to possess cannabis for the individual’s won medical purposes in accordance with Part 14 of the *Cannabis Regulations* (Canada) or in accordance with a court order;

“Tobacco” includes tobacco in a processed or unprocessed form that may be smoked, inhaled or chewed (including snuff), or otherwise used by way of being absorbed, dissolved, sniffed, or ingested;

“Tobacco product” means any product that contains tobacco, and includes the package in which tobacco is sold;

“Tobacco product accessory” means a product that may be used in the consumption of a tobacco product, including a humidor, pipe, cigarette holder, cigar clip, lighter and matches;

“Vapour product” means an electronic cigarette, an e-substance, or any component of an electronic cigarette and includes the package in which the electronic cigarette, e-substance or component is sold;

Requirements

The Greater Essex County District School Board prohibits:

1. Smoking or holding lighted tobacco, smoking or holding lighted cannabis, using an electronic cigarette or , anywhere on or in Board property, including school property (elementary or secondary), administrative buildings, early years centres, child care centres, children's playgrounds, Board vehicles, or a vehicle contracted by or for the Board at any time. The prohibition also applies to all public areas within 20 metres of any point of the perimeter of Board property as well as anytime school board business is being conducted (e.g. field trips, etc.)

2. The sale, offer to sell or supply of tobacco , a tobacco product, a vapour product, or cannabis to anyone under 19 years of age, regardless of the seller's/supplier's age. This includes the sale and free distribution of any tobacco, tobacco product, vapour product, or cannabis regardless of quantity (i.e., includes single denominations).

3. The consumption or use of any tobacco products, vapour products, cannabis (other than medical cannabis by authorized medical cannabis users), shisha or e-cigarettes, or prohibited product or
accessory anywhere on or in Board property including in Board vehicles, on school buses and private vehicles always parked on Greater Essex County District School Board property.

4. For greater certainty, this Regulation is effective on Board property during school hours and after school hours.

5. The Board shall post applicable signage at each Board property to ensure that employees, visitors, the public and students are aware that smoking and the use of electronic cigarettes and vapour products is prohibited on Board property. Examples of such posting locations are:

    a. Exterior signage at each buildings main entrance and exit;
    b. Interior signage at each washroom entrance; and
    c. In board vehicles.

6. The Board shall ensure that there are no ashtrays or other similar equipment on Board property, other than in a vehicle in which the manufacturer has installed such a device.

7. The use or consumption of medical cannabis by authorized medical cannabis users who are employees or students shall be subject to Human Resources Administrative Procedures for employees and Administration of Prescription Medication, for students.

8. The Employee Assistance Program and Wellness Education Centre are available to all staff. Students should access their own physicians.

The following tables outlines a non-exhaustive list of examples of common tobacco products, imitation tobacco products, vapour products and cannabis products and prohibited accessories to which this Regulation applies:

Prohibited Product	Prohibited Accessories
Lighted tobacco: Cigarettes, pipes, cigars, cigarillos, Blunt wraps, beedies etc.	Lighters, matches, rolling papers, plastic/tin cigarette cases, cigarette holder etc.
Smokeless Tobacco: Chew, plug, snus, snuff, etc.	Spit bottles, tins, tubs, etc.
Shisha: Tobacco and/or herbal etc.	Waterpipe/hookah apparatus, charcoal, mouthpiece, e-juice/nicotine solutions etc.
Vapour Products: Electronic smoking devices/vaping products (e.g., cigarettes, cigars, pipes, waterpipe/hookah Hookah/ herbal solutions) etc.	Any e-substance, nicotine / non-nicotine cartridges, charges, e-juice/nicotine solutions, smoking apparatus, and its' components etc.
Cannabis: Any product that contains Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC). This may include: seeds, plants, fresh or dried cannabis, hashish, cannabis based edibles, cannabis pills, cannabis oils.	Lighters, matches, rolling papers, scales, etc.

Student use of tobacco products, cannabis products or vapour products contrary to this Regulation may result in student discipline, including suspension and/or a recommendation for expulsion, and/or a report to the Tobacco Enforcement Officer and/or the local police force as per the Board/Police Protocol.

Breach of this Regulation by staff members may result in disciplinary action and will be addressed by Human Resources pursuant to the Board's administrative procedures. Breach of this Regulation by permit-holders will be addressed by Facility Services. Breach of this Regulation by members of the public and visitors will be addressed by the School Principal or designate. Breach of this Regulation by persons contracted by or on behalf of the Board shall be addressed by Superintendent of Business. Breach of this Regulation may result in a report to the Tobacco Enforcement Officer and/or the local police service. A member of the public or a visitor in breach of this Regulation may be asked to leave Board property.

An employee who reports a breach of this Regulation or otherwise seeks to enforce this Regulation shall not be subject to discipline of any kind, threats, intimidation or coercion as a result of the report or enforcement.

Exception

The Board recognizes that tobacco products may be used for traditional Indigenous cultural or spiritual purposes and requests for the use of tobacco will be addressed in accordance with the FNMI Protocol.