

RSU #63

- a. **NEPN/NSBA Code:** ADC
- b. **Title:** RSU #63 Policy Addressing Tobacco Use and Exposure
- c. **Author:** Administrative Team
- d. **Replaces Policy:**
- e. **Date Approved:** 02/24/2020 RSU #63
- f. **Previously Approved:** 01/22/2018
- g. **Policy Expiration:** Review as Needed
- h. **Responsible for Review:** Administrative Team and Policy Committee
- i. **Date Reviewed:** 02/05/2020 Administrative Team
02/04/2020 Policy Committee
- j. **References:** 22 MRSA §§ 1578(B), 1580(A)(3)
Me. PL 470; 20 USC 6081-6084; Maine Chapter 61, LD 152
Policy ADC-R - RSU #63 Policy Addressing Tobacco Use
and Exposure-Administrative Procedures
Policy EEAE C - Student and Rider Conduct on School
Vehicles

k. Narrative:

RSU #63 (the District) is dedicated to providing its students, staff, and visitors with a safe and healthy environment to learn, work, and play. Tobacco use continues to be the leading cause of preventable disease and death in Maine and the United States. Research has shown that students addicted to nicotine products do not learn as well because they are focused on the need for more nicotine versus learning. The District prohibits the possession and/or use of all tobacco products and electronic smoking devices in school buildings, facilities, on school buses, and at school sponsored events. This policy reflects and emphasizes the hazards of tobacco use, assures compliance with laws, and protects school community members from secondhand smoke.

- I. The policy applies to the possession and/or use of all tobacco products, including but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, smokeless tobacco, chew, electronic cigarettes, vape products, and other electronic nicotine delivery systems. The District has adopted this tobacco-free policy to support and model healthy, tobacco-free lifestyles and to create an environment free of tobacco smoke.
- II. All school buildings and property will be tobacco-free at all times (24 hours per day, 365 days per year). This includes days when school is not in session and all functions taking place on school grounds, such as athletic events and other activities not associated with, or sponsored by, the District. The policy applies to everyone on school grounds, including students, school staff, parents/guardians, and visitors. The policy extends to school buses and all District owned or leased vehicles.
- III. Possession of any tobacco product is prohibited on district property, in district vehicles, and at school-sponsored functions. Students are prohibited from wearing clothing or gear that depicts tobacco brands, including e-cigarette or electronic nicotine delivery system brands.

- IV.** The sale, distribution, dispensing, or promotion of tobacco products and paraphernalia is prohibited on school property and at all school functions. Tobacco industry and tobacco retailer sponsorship of school activities and functions is prohibited.