

**ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES/VAPORIZER CIGARETTES (E-CIGARETTES)
TOBACCO, NICOTINE, ILLEGAL & CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES
USE AND POSSESSION ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE**

I. Prohibited Conduct

a. Students

Use, possession, sale, dispensing or distribution of electronic cigarettes/vaporizer cigarettes (e-cigarettes) and tobacco, nicotine, illegal and controlled substances (T.N.I.C.S.) products by all students is prohibited at all times in school facilities, on school grounds and buses, and during school-sponsored events held away from school.

b. Employees and All Other Persons

The use of e-cigarettes and/or T.N.I.C.S. products by employees and all other persons is prohibited at all times in RSU 19 school facilities, on school grounds and in buses. The use of e-cigarettes and/or T.N.I.C.S. products by employees or volunteers is prohibited during school-sponsored events held away from school. In addition, employees and all other persons are strictly prohibited, under law and RSU#19's policy/administrative procedure, from selling, dispensing or distributing e-cigarettes and/or T.N.I.C.S. products to students.

No student, employee or visitor shall smoke, vaporize (vape), chew or snuff any tobacco-based or illegal substance on school grounds or at school events. Also prohibited is any form of smoking or vaping any other substance.

II. Enforcement

In order to enforce this policy, the following guidelines shall be utilized by the principal or a school in which prohibited conduct occurs. The principal shall report any violations of this policy/administrative procedure as promptly as practicable, to the superintendent.

A. The superintendent shall develop disciplinary guidelines for students violating this policy/administrative procedure, which shall be attached to this administrative procedure.

B. The superintendent or designee reserves the right to refer students to a law enforcement agency, on a case-by-case basis, as the superintendent may deem necessary. However, the superintendent/designee shall refer to a law enforcement agency any student reasonably suspected of selling, dispensing or distributing e-cigarettes and/or T.N.I.C.S. products.

First Reading: 09/20/16

Adopted: 10/18/16

C. Other Persons in Violation

All other persons violating this policy, e.g., employees, visitors, shall be immediately directed to cease the violative behavior. In addition, all persons suspected of selling, distributing or in any way dispensing e-cigarettes and/or T.N.I.C.S. products to students shall be referred to a law enforcement agency.

Any employee violating this policy shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary measures.

III. Notices

RSU 19's policy and corresponding disciplinary actions for infractions of this policy shall be distributed to employees and printed in student handbooks. Parents/guardians shall also be sent notification in writing of RSU 19's e-cigarettes and/or T.N.I.C.S. policy and administrative procedures. Notices shall be signed by parents/legal guardians and returned to the school where they shall be kept on file.

Legal Reference: Title 22 MRSA, Section 1578-B
Public Law 470 - An Act to Reduce Tobacco Use by Minors
20 USC 6081- Pro-Children Act of 1994 (Goals 2000)

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