

1 The Transylvania County Board of Education recognizes that the use of tobacco products is a
2 health, safety, and environmental hazard for students, employees, visitors, and school facilities.
3 The Board believes that the use of tobacco products on school grounds, in school buildings and
4 facilities, on school property or at school-related or school-sponsored events is detrimental to the
5 health and safety of students, staff and visitors. The Board acknowledges that adult employees
6 and visitors serve as role models for students. The Board recognizes that it has an obligation to
7 promote positive role models in schools and promote a healthy learning and working
8 environment. Finally, the Board recognizes that it has a legal authority and obligation pursuant
9 to G.S. 115C-407 *Policy Prohibiting Tobacco Use in School Buildings* as well as the federal
10 *Pro-Children's Act, Title X of Public Law 103-227* and the *No Child Left Behind Act*.

11 12 **Tobacco Use Prohibited**

13 No student, staff member or school visitor is permitted to use any tobacco product at any time,
14 including non-school hours:

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- 16 • In any building, facility, or vehicle owned, leased, rented or chartered by the
- 17 Transylvania County Schools;
- 18 • On any school grounds and property – including athletic fields and parking lots – owned
- 19 leased, rented or chartered by the Transylvania County Schools; or
- 20 • At any school-sponsored or school-related event on-campus or off-campus.

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22 In addition, school district employees, school volunteers, contractors or other persons performing
23 services on behalf of the school district also are prohibited from using tobacco products at any
24 time while serving in an official capacity, either on or off school grounds.

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26 Further, no student is permitted to possess a tobacco product while in any school building, while
27 on school grounds or property, or at any school-sponsored or school-related event.

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29 Tobacco products may be included in instructional or research activities in public school
30 buildings if the activity is conducted or supervised by the faculty member overseeing the
31 instruction or research and the activity does not include smoking, chewing, or otherwise
32 ingesting the tobacco product.

33 34 **Definition of Tobacco Products and Tobacco Use**

35 For the purposes of this policy, “tobacco product” is defined to include cigarettes, cigars, blunts,
36 bidis, pipes, chewing tobacco, snuff, **e-cigarettes**, and any other items containing or reasonably
37 resembling tobacco or tobacco products. “Tobacco use” includes smoking, chewing, dipping, or
38 any other use of tobacco products.

41 Signage

42 Signs will be posted in a manner and location that adequately notify students, staff and visitors of
43 the 100 percent tobacco-free schools policy.

45 Enforcement for Students

46 Consequences for students engaging in the prohibited behavior will be provided in accordance
47 with the district's Student Conduct/Discipline Policy JFC. Students who violate the school
48 district's tobacco use policy will be provided information on the harmful effects of tobacco use,
49 techniques for stopping tobacco use, and information about tobacco cessation programs.
50 Parents/guardians will be notified of all violations and actions taken by the school. Suspension
51 will be used only after a student has had a prior tobacco violation or refused to participate in
52 other disciplinary options.

54 Enforcement for Staff and Visitors

55 Employees found to be in violation of the tobacco ban policy will be included in the following
56 management system:

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58 First offense – Verbal warning

59 Second offense – Written anecdotal with a copy in the employee's personnel file

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61 Further offenses may result in suspension or dismissal of the employee.

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63 Visitors using tobacco products will be asked to refrain while on school property or leave the
64 premises. Law enforcement officers may be contacted to escort the person off the premises or
65 cite the person for trespassing if the person refuses to leave the school property. Visitors with
66 multiple violations of this policy may be banned from attending school functions.

68 Opportunities for Cessation

69 The administration will consult with the county health department and other appropriate health
70 organizations to provide students and employees with information and access to support systems,
71 programs and services to encourage them to abstain from the use of tobacco products.

73 Prevention Education

74 The administration will consult with appropriate health organizations to identify and provide
75 programs or opportunities for students to gain a greater understanding of the health hazards of
76 tobacco use and the impact of tobacco use as it relates to providing a safe, orderly, clean and
77 inviting school environment. The administration will ensure, per G.S. 115C-81.a3.11, that the
78 North Carolina Healthful Living Education Standard Course of Study for grades K-9 be taught
79 using sequential, age appropriate, current, accurate, evidence-based curricula.

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81 **Procedures for Implementation**

82 The administration will develop a plan for communicating the policy that may include
83 information in student handbooks, announcements at school-sponsored or school-related events,
84 and appropriate signage in buildings and around campus, effective July 1, 2006.

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88 APPROVED BY BOARD 5/24/93

89 AND EFFECTIVE 8/1/93

90 REVISED 1/24/00

91 REVISED 4/3/06

92 **REVISED** _____

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