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Board Policy 2.3.5

Tobacco and Nicotine Use/Possession

The Board recognizes that the use of tobacco or nicotine presents a health and safety hazard which may have serious consequences for users and nonusers.

For purposes of this policy, **tobacco product** shall be defined as a lighted or unlighted cigarette, cigar and pipe; other lighted smoking product; smokeless tobacco in any form; and any product intended to be consumed through vaporization or any other means.

Electronic cigarette is an electronic device that delivers nicotine or other substances through vaporization and inhalation.

Electronic Nicotine Delivery System or ‘ENDS’ is a product or device used, intended for use or designed for the purpose of ingesting a nicotine product. The term includes an electronic cigarette.

Nicotine product is a product that contains or consists of nicotine in a form that can be ingested by chewing, smoking, inhaling or any other means.

The Board prohibits tobacco and nicotine product use and possession by students at any time in a school building and on any property, buses, vans and vehicles that are owned, leased or controlled by AACS. The Board also prohibits tobacco and nicotine product use and possession by students at school-sponsored activities that are held off school property.

The Board prohibits the possession, use, exchange or sale of any tobacco product or nicotine product by any persons at any time in a school building and on any property, buses, vans and vehicles owned, leased or controlled by the school district.

The Board prohibits the possession, use, exchange or sale of tobacco product or nicotine product by students, or any persons, at school-sponsored activities that are held off school property.

The Executive Director or designee shall annually notify students, parents/guardians and staff about AACS’ tobacco use policy by publishing such policy in the student handbook, parent newsletters, posted notices, and other efficient methods. Appropriate signs shall be placed in clearly visible locations and, whenever practical, public address announcements shall inform the public of AACS’ tobacco use policy. Failure to provide such notification, however, shall not preclude discipline and/or referral to law enforcement.

Incidents of possession, use and sale of tobacco in violation of this policy shall be reported to the

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Office of Safe Schools as required by law.

All violators of this policy shall be subject to civil and/or criminal penalties, as provided by law, and appropriate disciplinary action, including, but not limited to, termination from employment.