

Addendum F



TOBACCO – Free Policy

Rationale

The health hazards of tobacco use have been well established. This policy is established to:

1. reflect and emphasize the hazards of tobacco use;
2. be consistent with state and federal laws;
3. protect the health and safety of all students, employees and the public; and
4. set a non-tobacco use example by adults.

Tobacco is the number one killer and leading cause of preventative death in Kentucky. To support and model a healthy lifestyle for our students the school board of the Owensboro Catholic Schools establishes the following tobacco-free policy.

Use and Possession Prohibitions

Owensboro Catholic Schools, inclusive of all its buildings and athletic facilities, strives to be tobacco-free.

Possession or use of tobacco products including alternative nicotine products or vapor products by students on OCS property or in OCS vehicles and at school-sponsored events (whether on or off OCS property) is prohibited at all times.

The use of tobacco products including alternative nicotine products or vapor products by all school employees on OCS property or in OCS vehicles and at school-sponsored events (whether on or off OCS property) is prohibited at all times.

The use of tobacco products including alternative nicotine products or vapor products by all visitors to OCS is prohibited in all OCS buildings and athletic facilities.

Advertising of tobacco products including alternative nicotine products or vapor products is prohibited in school buildings, on OCS property, at school functions and in all school publications. This includes clothing that advertises tobacco, alternative nicotine products or vapor products.

Prevention Education

Tobacco prevention education will be incorporated in the OCS comprehensive health curriculum so that students will be aware of the health and social consequences of use/nonuse of tobacco. Teachers whose instructional assignments include tobacco use prevention education will be trained in order that students will be afforded the most effective delivery of the OCS's classroom-based tobacco prevention education.

Approved by the OCS Education Council – December 13, 2017
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Communications to Students, Staff and Public

This policy will be printed in the employee and student handbooks. It will be posted in highly visible places in all schools. Signs will be posted at all entrances of school buildings, school properties and athletic facilities. Parents and guardians shall be sent notification in writing.

Definitions

For purposes of this policy, “tobacco” is defined to include any lit or unlit cigarette, electronic cigarette, cigar, pipe, bidi, clove cigarette, and any other smoking product, and spit tobacco, also known as smokeless tobacco, dip, chew, and snuff, and alternative nicotine product or vapor product in any form.

For purposes of this policy, “tobacco use” included smoking, which means carrying or having in one’s possession a lighted cigarette, cigar, pipe, electronic cigarette or other object giving off or containing any substance giving off smoke or vapor/steam, and chewing spit tobacco, also known as smokeless tobacco, dip, chew, and snuff, in any form.

The term “use” means the chewing, lighting and smoking of any tobacco product and/or electronic cigarette, alternative nicotine product or vapor product.

For purposes of this policy, “OCS buildings and property” is defined to include all school buildings, adjoining parking lots and church properties, and athletic facilities.