

TOBACCO-FREE SCHOOLS

In accordance with RI General Law 23-20.9 - all individuals (children and adults) who utilize Rhode Island school facilities at any time shall be prohibited from using any substance or item which contains tobacco including, but not limited to cigarettes, electronic cigarettes (non-combustibles), cigars, pipes or other smoking tobacco, or the use of tobacco products*. In order to insure a tobacco-free educational environment, the Chariho Regional School District will adopt the following penalties for employees using tobacco products* on school buses, in school buildings or on school grounds:

STAFF

First Offense - The principal will issue a verbal warning, followed, within three days of the violation, by a letter. The principal will encourage the staff member to participate in a smoking cessation program.

Second Offense - The principal will report second and subsequent violations to the Superintendent. The staff member will be subject to progressive disciplinary action including a written reprimand, suspension with pay, recommendation to the School Committee to suspend without pay, and recommendation to terminate consistent with collective bargaining agreements. If only a reprimand is issued, it will be with the understanding that encouragement in and successful completion of an approved smoking cessation program will result in removal of the reprimand from the employee's file.

STUDENTS

Penalties for students will be applied in accord with the appropriate Standards for Student Behavior Policy.

VISITORS

First Offense – The principal (or designee) will issue a verbal request to the individual to cease use of tobacco products.

Second Offense – The principal (or designee) will request that the individual leave Chariho property. Failure to comply will result in a request for police assistance. Consistent violations, over time, shall be referred to the Superintendent.

*"Tobacco Product(s)" means any product containing and made, or derived from, tobacco or nicotine that is intended for human consumption including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, little cigars, pipe tobacco, spitting tobacco, chewing tobacco, dipping tobacco, powdered tobacco, loose tobacco, snus, pouches, pellets, nicotine toothpicks, nicotine orbs, nicotine gel or lotion, or electronic cigarettes, electronic cigars, electronic pipes, or other similar products that rely on vaporization or aerosolization, or bidi cigarettes which can be used for, but whose use is not limited to, smoking, sniffing, chewing, vaporizing, inhaling, absorbing, dissolving, or spitting and ingestion by any other means of the product. "Tobacco Product(s)" does not include any product that has been approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for sale as a tobacco cessation product and is being marketed and sold solely for the approved purpose nor does it include tobacco products used under the supervision of a teacher for instructional purposes.

Revised 8/10/93, Revised and effective 8/18/15