

Policy No. I-14

Smoking/Vaping Ban	
Adopted: March 31, 1987	Last Reviewed/Revised: June 18, 2024
Next Scheduled Review: 2026-2027	
Repealed Policies & Documents	
II-28 Alcohol, Tobacco and Drug Education and Abuse in Schools	
II-39 Progressive Discipline & Safety in Schools Code of Conduct - Suspensions & Expulsions	
VI-44 Progressive Discipline and Safety in Schools	
V-01 Use of School Grounds and Community Use of School Facilities	
VI-64 Community Use of School Facilities	

Purpose

To ensure compliance with the Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017, which prohibits the use of tobacco, the use of electronic-cigarettes (e-cigarettes) to vape any substance, and the smoking of cannabis (medical and recreational) in

[Ontario Regulation 268/18](#)

[PPM 128](#)

[Smoke-Free Ontario Act 2017](#)

Definitions

Smoking means smoking (inhaling and exhaling) or holding lighted tobacco or cannabis (medical or recreational)

Vaping means inhaling or exhaling vapour from an electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) or holding an activated e-cigarette, whether or not the vapour contains nicotine

Principles

HCDSB acknowledges that there is sufficient medical evidence to support significant health risks as a result of smoking and for non-smokers who are exposed to 'second-hand' smoke.

Further, recognizing that such health risks promote cardiovascular and respiratory diseases at an increased rate of incidence, and that second-hand smoke is an irritant to non-smokers who are also exposed to an increased risk of respiratory diseases and lung cancer, the HCDSB endorses a smoke-free environment for all occupants.

Requirements

The Act stipulates several obligations, which include the following:

- ensuring that employees, students and members of the public do not smoke or vape on school property;
- ensuring employees, students, and visitors are aware of the smoking and vaping prohibitions, including not smoking or vaping within 20 metres of the school grounds;
- posting appropriate signage at all entrances, exits, and other locations in order to inform everyone that smoking/vaping is prohibited;
- ensuring ashtrays and any object(s) that serve as one are removed from the property;
- ensuring that a person, who does not comply with the Act, does not remain on the property;
- ensuring all forms of tobacco and cannabis, including vaping of any kind, are strictly prohibited on HCDSB property

Failure to comply with the Smoke Free Ontario Act (including smoking and vaping) may include fines and/or discipline.



APPROVED: Regular Meeting of the Board

AUTHORIZED BY: _____
Chair of the Board

