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**School Committee Policy:**

**#643**

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### **Tobacco-Free Schools**

The Maynard School Committee is dedicated to providing a healthful, comfortable, and productive environment for students, staff, and citizens. The Committee believes that education plays a critical role in establishing life-long health habits for its students. A comprehensive health curriculum (K-12) should emphasize the dangers of tobacco, in addition to drugs and alcohol. The School Committee also has a strong interest in the health of its employees and in their serving as positive role models for students with regard to smoking and the use of tobacco products.

In accordance M.G.L. Chapter 71:1, 71:2A and 37H smoking and the use of any tobacco products shall be prohibited on school property. This shall include school buildings, school facilities, school grounds, and school owned/contracted leased vehicles. This prohibition extends at all times, including evenings, weekends, vacations, and summer. It applies to all school activities, and to groups using or renting school facilities and/or grounds and to school employees, volunteers, and contractor employees within 50 feet of a school vehicle.

#### **Prevention Effort**

All Employees, by means of instruction and example, should cooperate in an effort to discourage and prevent student and staff smoking and use of tobacco products. The health education curriculum, at all levels, should focus on the role of smoking as a leading cause of premature death and disability in our country, and on the impact of long-term exposure to involuntary or passive smoking on the non-smoker. External resources should be sought and utilized to support the prevention effort. Principals will post signs indicating that smoking or the use of tobacco products is prohibited. Community groups which use school facilities will be notified by the Superintendent/designee.

#### **Sanctions**

All Employees and students share in the responsibility for adhering to and enforcing this policy. A student who violates this policy will be subject to discipline as described in the Student Handbook. An Employee who violates this policy will be subject to discipline beginning with a written reprimand; further violations will be dealt with in accordance with established procedures for suspension and dismissal of Employees.

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Current Version: 6/03/99

Earlier Version: 12/93, 9/94

Legal References: MGL 71:1, 71:2A, 71:37H

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