

DIOCESE OF DES MOINES

Catholic Schools Policies/Regulations

STUDENT PERSONNEL

Controlled Substances /Tobacco and “Smoking”

It shall be the policy of the Diocesan Catholic Schools Office, under the aegis of the Bishop, that all schools prohibit the distribution, dispensing, manufacture, possession, use or being under the influence of beer, wine, alcohol, tobacco, other controlled substances or “look alike” substances by students while on school property or while attending or engaged in school activities.

In accordance with the Smokefree Air Act, (IAC 142D), smoking will not be permitted in the school buildings or on the grounds of the school. For purposes of this policy, “smoking” includes, but is not limited to, burning or vaporizing tobacco or other products in a cigarette, cigar, pipe, electronic cigarette, or any noncombustible product, which may or may not contain nicotine, that employs a heating element, power source, electronic circuit, chemical, or mechanical means, regardless of shape or size, that can be used to produce vapor from a solution of substance.

Students under the age of 18 are not permitted to use nicotine, alternative nicotine, or vaping products under the law. A student who is under the age of 18 in possession can face civil penalties. Students who violate this policy may be required to satisfactorily complete a substance abuse or rehabilitation program. Students who violate this policy may also be subject to suspension or expulsion. Violations may also be reported to the proper legal authorities.

Schools must offer programs which address the moral, legal, social and health consequences of tobacco, drug and alcohol use. In addition, the programs should include effective techniques for resisting use of tobacco, drugs and alcohol. (281-IAC 12.3(6))

Policy Adopted: May 19, 2003
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