Smoking, Vaping or using Medical Cannabis on School Property

What the law states

• Smoking or holding lighted tobacco, vaping or smoking medical cannabis is not allowed on any public area on or within 20 metres of school property. This applies to everyone, including:
  • Cars parked on school property or cars coming onto school property
  • Students, staff, parents and visitors

This law is in effect 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Fines

• The minimum fine for using any of these products on school property is $305. Repeat offences result in a higher fine.
• The minimum fine for selling, supplying or sharing any of these products to anyone under 19 is $365.

What happens if I get caught?

FIRST offence

• School may issue a suspension.
• A warning letter will be sent to your home, addressed to both you and your parent/guardian.
• If you are under 16 the letter will only be addressed to your parent/guardian.

SECOND offence

• School may issue a longer suspension.
• Tobacco enforcement officer will lay a charge.
• If you are age 16 or older you can be fined.
• If you are under the age of 16 you can be served a summons to attend court with your parents/guardian.

Who has to see me smoking, vaping or using medical cannabis on school property in order to lay a charge?

• A reliable witness
• A teacher or other staff member
• A tobacco enforcement officer from the Health Unit

If you have any questions about the laws regarding smoking on school property, please contact the Health Unit at 519-426-6170 ext. 3407

Updated June 2018