

# 141 Vape, Cannabis, Alcohol, and Illicit Drug Free Environment.

## Beliefs

The Maskwacis Education Schools Commission (MESC) follows cultural and traditional teachings of the Maskwacis Cree, in particular Wahkohtowin. Wahkohtowin is the belief that all things are related and connected, that all of existence has spirit and that living in a good way requires us to maintain good relationships with each other and other aspects of existence. We recognize that respect for mother earth, elders, youth, and the Treaties are paramount to planning ahead and making decisions for future generations.

The MESC believes that a commitment to the health and safety of its students, staff, volunteers, and members of the public demonstrates Wahkohtowin. The MESC also believes that the use of vape products, cannabis, alcohol, and illicit drugs are detrimental to student health and the learning environment.

## Procedures

1. The use of vape products, cannabis, alcohol, and illicit drugs are not permitted on Commission facilities and grounds.
  - 1.1. Notwithstanding the above, the Commission accommodates the following:
    - 1.1.1. Non-student adult tobacco/vape use: Outside of school buildings on facility grounds; and in a location away from and out of sight of students.
2. All persons involved with school sanctioned activities are prohibited from possessing and/or using), vape products, cannabis, alcohol, and illicit drugs including inappropriate use of prescription and non-prescription medication:
  - 2.1. While on school premises;
  - 2.2. During school sponsored activities off premises; and
  - 2.3. While on transportation provided by Commission staff or contractors.Notwithstanding the above, adult supervisors may possess vape products and they may use vape products during “breaks” when they are not in the presence of students.
3. A student knowingly in the company of persons, who are in the possession of, or using a prohibited substance while on school property, during school sponsored activities, or during any time that students are under the jurisdiction of the school is strictly prohibited.

4. Students under the influence of alcohol, cannabis and/or illicit drugs are prohibited from being on school property, participating in authorized students activities or on transportation provided by Commission staff, contractor or volunteer. Should a student who appears to be under the influence of any prohibited substance as defined in this administrative procedure, approach any staff seeking help, the students shall be attended to in what is deemed to be that Kiskinwahamawâkan best interest. In all cases the safety and welfare of the student shall prevail. Such students shall be escorted from the school premises as soon as possible in the custody of a Parent/Guardian/Caregiver or other responsible adult.
5. The Principals shall annually inform, in writing, all students, Parent/Guardian/Caregiver, staff and volunteer/s, and other user groups of this administrative procedure.
6. The Principals shall have signs appropriately posted within their school facility designating it as a "vape free environment." They also have the authority to ask visitors to comply.
7. Schools shall cooperate in education programs to increase the students' knowledge of the facts concerning vape and cannabis products, alcohol and substance abuse.
8. Each school shall provide assistance as available to students who are experiencing substance abuse problems. Such assistance may be through counseling or referral to external agencies.
9. Violations of this administrative procedure shall be dealt with through one or more of the following:
  - 9.1. Applying AP 315 Student Discipline;
  - 9.2. Involving police authorities for illegal substances or behaviors.