



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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May 12, 2011

TO: Chief School Administrators
Charter School Lead Persons

FROM: Susan Martz, Director
Office of Student Services

SUBJECT: Comprehensive Tobacco-Free School Policy Flyer

Attached is a flyer from the NJSBA that endorses the Comprehensive Tobacco-Free School Policy (CTFSP). We are forwarding the flyer for your information in case you are interested in implementing the CTFSP. The number of schools implementing a CTFSP is growing. This is good news because according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) 9.1% of New Jersey youth ages 12-17 smoke and New Jersey ranks 8th among the states. A Comprehensive Tobacco-Free School prohibits all tobacco use all the time, anywhere, by anyone, on all school property, and at all school sponsored events. The policy is **different** from the conventional school tobacco policies because it:

- Includes tobacco not only in the form of cigarettes/cigars, but all forms of tobacco,
- Tobacco-free school zones are created with no loopholes for the new tobacco products,
- Applies not only to students, but to all school staff and to visitors to school or school-related events,
- Asks that tobacco policy be publicly displayed through clear signage,
- Establishes as policy that tobacco prevention education must be offered to all students, and
- Offers positive intervention opportunities to adults and students who are struggling with smoking.

NJSBA offers a fully written policy free of charge. To access this policy, please log on to NJSBA.org and search for policy 5131.6

SM/kad:s/shss/comprehensivetobaccofreeschoolpolicyflyermemo

Attachment

c: Christopher Cerf, Acting Commissioner
Rochelle Hendricks
Gregg Edwards
Andrew Smarick
Barbara Gantwerk
Susan Martz
LEE Group
Garden State Coalition of Schools
Executive County Superintendents