

Office of the Superintendent of Schools
MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Rockville, Maryland

February 6, 2019

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Education
From: Jack R. Smith, Superintendent of Schools
Subject: Enforcement of No-Smoking Policy (01-08-19-04-C)

During Board Comments, Mrs. O'Neill requested the following information:

Question C

What is MCPS doing to enforce the no smoking policy on MCPS properties?

Response

Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) uses the guidelines in the Student Code of Conduct; MCPS Regulation IGO-RA, *Guidelines for Incidents of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Abuse Involving Students*; and MCPS Regulation COF-RA, *Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs on Montgomery County Public Schools Property*, to enforce the no-smoking policy on MCPS properties. Regulation IGO-RA specifically establishes “procedures for incidents of alcohol, tobacco, and other drug abuse or smoking involving students.” Regulation COF-RA establishes “procedures and penalties when anyone on MCPS property or engaged in MCPS-sponsored activities, is found to be in possession or under the influence of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs.” The Student Code of Conduct provides progressive consequences as part of the disciplinary response for any student found using or possessing tobacco and/or e-cigarettes.

Staff in the Office of School Support and Improvement and the Department of School Safety and Security also collaborates with County agencies such as the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), the Montgomery County Police Department, and the Department of Social Services to determine best practices for prevention and intervention of student smoking. MCPS staff attended the recent meeting “Working Group on Vaping, E-cigarettes, and Juuling Use in Adolescents and Young Adults,” hosted by Dr. Travis A. Gayles, County health officer and chief of Public Health Services, DHHS, in January 2019.

If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Kimberly A. Statham, deputy superintendent of school support and improvement, Office of School Support and Improvement, at 240-740-3100.

JRS:KAS:AML:kde

Copy to:

Executive Staff

Ms. Webb