

**FOSTER-GLOCESTER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
GLOCESTER, RI**

**ANTI-TOBACCO/SMOKING**

**PURPOSE:**

The Foster-Glocester Regional School Committee is dedicated to insuring a healthy atmosphere in which to teach, work and learn. This goal can be achieved only through continuous efforts to protect non-smokers and to help employees adjust to restrictions on smoking.

**PHILOSOPHY:**

The Foster-Glocester Regional School Committee recognizes that the use of tobacco has been shown to be deleterious to good health, that non-smokers tend to have less absenteeism than smokers, and that education is not only by textbooks and educators but also by example. Therefore, the following policy is hereby adopted.

**POLICY STATEMENT:**

Effective September 1, 1994, no one: staff, students, parents or visitors will be permitted to smoke in our schools. Schools are defined to be, but not limited to school playgrounds, school administration buildings, indoor school athletic facilities, school gymnasiums, school lock rooms, school buses, other school vehicles, other school buildings whose use is not primarily residential, and outside areas within twenty-five (25) feet of any school building.

**POLICY ENFORCEMENT:**

1. The use or possession of tobacco products by any student will no longer be permitted on Foster-Glocester Regional School District property during the school day, and at any indoor event or while participating in an outdoor event sponsored, approved, or supported by the Regional School District.
2. The administration shall be authorized to confiscate such tobacco products in any case where a student is observed smoking on school property or where such is openly displayed.

The school day shall be considered to constitute that period of time from portal to portal (i.e. from the time a student is picked up by the bus in the morning to the time he is dropped off by the bus in the afternoon).

3. Penalties for persons smoking in Rhode Island school buses, school buildings or on school campus:

## POLICY ENFORCEMENT (Continued)

### STUDENT – HIGH SCHOOL

**First Offense** – A one day in-school suspension and a conference with the student’s parent, guardian or custodian. The principal shall inform the student of the “Smoking Restrictions in Schools Act”. The student shall be provided with information concerning the harmful effects of smoking and may be required to perform a service to the school or community. The conference with the parent or guardian may be conducted over the telephone but must be held within three days of the violation.

**Second Offense** – Three day out of school suspension – letter sent home to the student’s parent or guardian to be signed and returned to the principal. The student may be required to perform community service.

**Third Offense** – Five day out of school suspension – letter sent home to the student’s parent or guardian to be signed and returned to the principal. The student may be required to perform community service.

**Fourth Offense** – Referred to the governing body of the school district for disciplinary action – letter sent home to the student’s parent or guardian to be signed and returned to the principal.

### STUDENT – MIDDLE SCHOOL

**First Offense** – A two day out of school suspension and a conference with the student’s parent, guardian or custodian. The principal shall inform the student of the “Smoking Restrictions in Schools Act”. The student shall be provided with information concerning the harmful effects of smoking and may be required to perform a service to the school or community. The conference with the parent or guardian may be conducted over the telephone but must be held within three days of the violation.

**Second Offense** – Three day out of school suspension – letter sent home to the student’s parent or guardian to be signed and returned to the principal. The student may be required to perform community service.

**Third Offense** – Four day out of school suspension – letter sent home to the student’s parent or guardian to be signed and returned to the principal. The student may be required to perform community service.

**Fourth Offense** – Referred to the governing body of the school district for disciplinary action – letter sent home to the student’s parent or guardian to be signed and returned to the principal.

### **STAFF**

## POLICY ENFORCEMENT (Continued)

**First Offense** – The principal shall inform the staff person of the “Smoking Restrictions in Schools Act”. The school principal will encourage staff member to participate in a smoking cessation program.

**Second Offense** – Verbal warning by principal, followed up with a letter within three days of the violation; principal will encourage staff member to participate in a smoking cessation program.

**Third Offense** – The principal of the school building in which the violation occurred will report the repeated violations to the school committee and the bargaining unit representing the employee. The staff member will be subject to disciplinary action as delineated by his/her school committee and his/her bargaining unit.

## **VISITORS**

Visitors who are observed smoking or using tobacco products in school buildings will be informed of the “Smoking Restrictions in Schools Act” and will be asked by anyone in the school to refrain from smoking or using tobacco products. If the individual fails to comply with the request, his or her violation of policy shall be referred to the building principal or the personnel responsible for the area in which the violation occurred. The building principal or personnel responsible for the area will make a decision on further action, which may include a directive to leave the school building. Repeated violations may result in a recommendation to the Superintendent to prohibit the individual from entering the school building for a specified period of time.

The policy is established in consideration of the goal of the Foster-Glocester Regional School District to create a smoke-free environment at the earliest possible reasonable date.

In all cases, the right of the non-smoker to protect his or her health and comfort will take precedence over an employee’s desire to smoke. The Foster-Glocester Regional School District, through the health and lung associations, will provide information about cessation programs. The success of this policy will depend upon the thoughtfulness, consideration and cooperation of smokers and non-smokers.

The Foster-Glocester Regional School District shall provide non-smoking clinics and education to any student or employee of the District at no cost to the participant.

First Reading: September 7, 1993  
Second Reading: October 5, 1993  
Revised/Adopted: October 5, 1993  
Revised: March 3, 1998

