

## **TOBACCO-FREE SCHOOLS**

The Rutherford County Board of Education recognizes that the use of tobacco products is a health, safety, and environmental hazard for students, employees, and visitors. The Board believes that the use of tobacco products on school grounds, in school buildings and facilities, on school property, or at school-related or school-sponsored events is detrimental to the health and safety of students, staff, and visitors. The Board acknowledges that adult employees and visitors serve as role models for students. The Board recognizes that it has an obligation to promote positive role models in schools and promote a healthy learning and working environment, free from unwanted smoke and tobacco use for the students, employees, and visitors on the school campus. Finally, the Board recognizes that it has a legal authority and obligation pursuant to G.S 115C-407 *Policy Prohibiting Tobacco Use in School Buildings* and the federal *Pro-Children's Act*.

The use of tobacco products on or in any school property, or at any school sponsored activity or event (regardless of location) is prohibited.

The Policy will be enforced as Follows:

### **1. Enforcement for Students**

Consequences for students engaging in the prohibited behavior will be provided in accordance with the school's student behavior management plan. Students who violate the school district's tobacco use policy may also be referred to the guidance counselor, a school nurse, or other health or counseling services for all offenses for health information, counseling, and referral

### **2. Enforcement for Employees**

Consequences for employees who violate the tobacco use policy will be in accordance with administrative regulations to be developed by the Superintendent.

### **3. Enforcement for Visitors**

Visitors using Tobacco products will be asked to refrain while on school property or leave the premises. If they refuse, law enforcement officers will be contacted to escort the person off the premises or cite the person for trespassing in case the person refuses to leave the school property.

Adopted by the Rutherford County Board of Education April 12, 2005  
**Effective January 1, 2006**