

Virtus Academy of South Carolina Tobacco, Alcohol, Electronic Smoking Devices and Drug Use Policy

VASC is committed to providing a tobacco, alcohol, and drug-free learning environment because tobacco use, exposure to secondhand smoke, alcohol consumption and other drugs are potentially hazardous to the health of human beings, especially children. Further, drug and alcohol abuse at school or in connection with school-sponsored activities, on or off school grounds, threatens the health and safety of our students and our employees and adversely affects the educational mission of the school.

Tobacco-Free School

The use of tobacco, tobacco products, electronic smoking devices (defined below), or the introduction of tobacco paraphernalia is prohibited in and on the property of VASC.

Electronic smoking device means any device that may be used to deliver any vaporized or aerosolized substance including, e-liquid, to the person inhaling from the device including, but not limited to, e-cigarette, e-cigar, e-pipe, vapes, vape pen or e-hookah. Electronic smoking device also includes any component, part or accessory of the device including any substance intended to be vaporized or aerosolized while using the device whether or not it contains nicotine.

Smoking, chewing, or the possession of tobacco products, papers, matches, lighters, or other such items by a student will not be allowed inside a building or structure, on school grounds, or at any school-sponsored event.

Enforcement-Tobacco/Vaping Offenses

VASC will enforce this policy through appropriate disciplinary actions for violators, including but not limited to the following for tobacco/vaping offenses:

- First offense - 1 day Out of school suspension (OSS)
- Second offense - 3 days OSS*
- Third offense - recommended expulsion to the VASC Board

*A re-entry meeting will be required after the second offense (OSS) with student and parent/legal guardian at which the parent and student will sign an acknowledgement confirming that administration has appraised them that a third offense within the school year will result in a recommendation for expulsion to the VASC Board

Alcohol and Drug Use Prohibited

No student, regardless of age, will possess, use, sell, purchase, barter, distribute, or be under the influence of intoxicating substances. Such substances will include, but not be limited to, alcoholic beverages, other controlled substances, or prescription drugs for which the student does

not have a proper prescription. Such substances may also include improper use of materials that have an intoxicating effect, such as aerosols or rubber cement.

In determining whether a student is under the influence of an intoxicating substance, the student's appearance, manner, and any statements made by the student may be considered without regard to the amount of alcohol and/or controlled substance consumed.

No student will aid, abet, assist, or conceal the possession, consumption, purchase or distribution of any intoxicating substance.

No student will possess, market, or distribute any substance which is represented to be or is substantially similar in color, shape, size, or markings to an alcoholic beverage, controlled substance, or improperly obtained prescription drug.

The Executive Director will cooperate fully with law enforcement agencies and will report to them all information that would be considered pertinent or beneficial in their efforts to stop the sale, possession, and use of controlled substances.

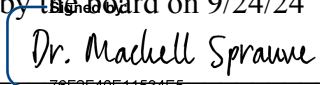
Enforcement-Intoxication/Under the Influence Offenses

Intoxication on school premises, whether intended or unintended, is prohibited. VASC will enforce this policy through appropriate disciplinary actions for violators, including but not limited to the following for tobacco/vaping offenses:

- First offense - five days Out of School Suspension (OSS)*
- Second offense - recommended expulsion to the VASC Board

*A re-entry meeting will be required after the first offense (OSS) with student and parent/legal guardian at which the parent and student will sign an acknowledgement confirming that administration has appraised them that a second intoxication/under the influence offense within the school year will result in a recommendation for expulsion to the VASC Board.

Adopted by the board on 9/24/24


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Dr. Machell Sprauve, Board Secretary