

DATE: May 8, 2012

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Trustee Michael Janz, Chair Policy Review Committee
Trustee Heather MacKenzie, Policy Review Committee
Trustee Catherin Ripley, Policy Review Committee

SUBJECT: Board Policy Review - FM.BP Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco Use on District Premises and at District Sponsored Functions

ORIGINATOR: Tanni Parker, Assistant Superintendent, Student Learning Services

RESOURCE STAFF: Bob Morter, Carol Symons

REFERENCE: [FM.BP - Alcoholic Beverages and Smoking on District Premises and at District Sponsored Functions](#)
[JGD.AR - Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages](#)
[HICA.BP - Field Trips](#)
[HICA.AR - Field Trips](#)

ISSUE

Board Policy FM.BP Alcoholic Beverages and Smoking on District Premises and at District Sponsored Functions was scheduled for review effective January 2012.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That revised Board Policy FM.BP Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco Use on District Premises and at District Sponsored Functions (Attachment I) be considered for the first time.**
- 2. That revised Board Policy FM.BP Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco Use on District Premises and at District Sponsored Functions (Attachment I) be considered for the second time.**

BACKGROUND

The policy FM.BP Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco Use on District Premises and at District Sponsored Functions was last reviewed in 2005. This current review of the policy arose not through any specific concerns with the policy, but rather that it was due for review. The intention of the policy in the original form was and remains to limit use of alcohol and tobacco in and around district facilities and students.

RELATED FACTS

The proposed policy was posted from January 25, 2012 to February 22, 2012 for public input. A total of 116 responses were received including 30 responses from parents and 76 responses from staff. In all, 84 per cent of the respondents were in favour of the policy as provided. Of the 16 per cent of responses that felt changes were required, the majority were seeking clarification. Two common concerns existed amongst those seeking clarity: the impact on the

cultural use of tobacco and smoking in front of the Centre for Education. The concern around the cultural use of tobacco can be clarified by noting that the policy does not prohibit the gifting of tobacco, rather only the use within district facilities. The issue of smoking in front of the Centre for Education is more aligned with enforcement of the existing policy, than any required change to the policy.

Finally, a concern was raised a number of times regarding students performing at events sponsored by other organizations, off of district property, where alcohol may be served. An example of this type of event would be a gala put on by a parent society where a school band or choir performs. While this situation is not directly relevant to the existing policy dealing with school sponsored events, it was determined that this policy would be an appropriate place to provide clarity to school administrators. As a result, a clause has been added to Section A, allowing students to perform at events where alcohol is served providing approval of the Superintendent of Schools is obtained. In this situation, the event may not be on school property. In addition, as the performance would be off school property all requirements of the Field Trip Regulation HICA.AR would need to be met.

OPTIONS

The following options are selected for consideration as they are deemed the most admissible:

1. Approve the policy as recommended.
2. Reaffirm the existing policy.

CONSIDERATIONS & ANALYSIS

The proposed policy retains the intended meaning from the existing policy with the exception of the addition of the clause on student performances. This clause, as well as the provision of examples will assist school administrators in understanding and implementing the policy.

NEXT STEPS

Subsequent to a decision by the Board of Trustees, a recommendation, with amendments if approved, will be brought forward for third consideration and final approval on May 22, 2012. In addition, the Superintendent of Schools will consider Administrative Regulation JGD.AR, Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages, and determine if it can be rescinded.

ATTACHMENTS & APPENDICES

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|---------------|---|
| ATTACHMENT I | Proposed Board Policy FM.BP – Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco Use on District Premises and at District Sponsored Functions |
| ATTACHMENT II | Current Board Policy FM.BP – Alcoholic Beverages and Smoking on District Premises and at District-Sponsored Functions showing recommended changes |
| APPENDIX I | Current Administrative Regulation JGD.AR – Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages |

BM:il

Edmonton Public Schools Board Policies and Regulations

CODE: FM.BP

TOPIC: Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco
Use on District Premises and at District
Sponsored Functions

EFFECTIVE DATE:

ISSUE DATE:

REVIEW DATE:

The Board of Trustees believes that the consumption of alcohol in schools or at district sponsored student functions is inappropriate. Further, the Board believes that the use of tobacco in district facilities or on district property should be prohibited.

A. ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1. The consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited:
 - in schools; and
 - at all student functions, including but not limited to, such functions as graduations and field trips, whether held at a district facility or elsewhere.
2. Subject to the approval of the Superintendent of Schools, the consumption of alcoholic beverages may be permitted:
 - in district facilities, other than schools, used for district sponsored functions or rented for the use of external groups, which would not include district students.
3. Subject to the approval of the Superintendent of Schools, the performance by students at venues where alcoholic beverages are available may be permitted.

B. TOBACCO

1. Tobacco use is prohibited in district facilities and on district property utilized in whole or in part by district staff.

Reference(s):

[IG.BP](#) - Student Behaviour and Conduct

[JG.AR](#) - Community Use of District Buildings

[HICA.BP](#) – Field Trips

[HICA.AR](#) – Field Trips

Edmonton Public Schools Board Policies and Regulations

CODE: FM.BP

TOPIC: Alcoholic Beverages and ~~Smoking~~
Tobacco Use on District Premises and at
District-Sponsored Functions

EFFECTIVE DATE: 01-01-2005

ISSUE DATE: 03-01-2005

REVIEW DATE: 01-2012

The Board of Trustees believes that the consumption of alcohol in schools or at district sponsored student functions is inappropriate. Further, the Board believes that the use of tobacco in district facilities or on district property should be prohibited.

A. ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1. The consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited:
 - in schools; and
 - ~~at off-site, district-sponsored student functions~~ **at all student functions, including but not limited to, such functions as graduations and field trips, whether held at a district facility or elsewhere.**
2. Subject to the approval of the Superintendent of Schools, the consumption of alcoholic beverages ~~on other district premises used for District-sponsored functions~~ may be permitted:
 - **in district facilities, other than schools, used for district sponsored functions or rented for the use of external groups, which would not include district students.**
3. **Subject to the approval of the Superintendent of Schools, the performance by students at venues where alcoholic beverages are available may be permitted.**

~~B. SMOKING TOBACCO~~

1. Tobacco use is prohibited in ~~Edmonton Public Schools'~~ **district facilities and on district property** utilized in whole or in part by district staff.
2. ~~Tobacco use is banned from all district property.~~

Reference(s):

[IG.BP](#) - Student Behaviour and Conduct

[JG.AR](#) - Community Use of District Buildings

~~[JGD.AR](#) - Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages~~

[HICA.BP](#) – Field Trips

[HICA.AR](#) – Field Trips

Edmonton Public Schools

Board Policies and Regulations

CODE: JGD.AR

TOPIC: Consumption of Alcoholic
Beverages

EFFECTIVE DATE: 31-01-2000

ISSUE DATE: 04-02-2000

REVIEW DATE: 02-2005

1. The consumption of alcohol is prohibited at:
 - a. all student functions sponsored by the district or held at a district facility; and
 - b. district facilities which are used for the accommodation of students, with the exception of the serving of communion wine by church rental groups.
 2. The superintendent may authorize the serving of alcoholic beverages:
 - a. at non-student functions sponsored by the district; and
 - b. in district facilities not used for the accommodation of students.
 3. The Alberta Liquor Control Board requires a letter of approval from the superintendent of schools or designate when making an application for a permit to serve alcoholic beverages at a district sponsored function.
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Reference(s):

[FM.BP](#) - Alcoholic Beverages and Smoking on District Premises and at District Sponsored Functions

[JG.AR](#) - Community Use of District Buildings
