



REPORT TO

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND WELL BEING, CATHOLIC EDUCATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

2021 ANNUAL REPORT: SMOKE AND VAPOUR FREE SPACE POLICY B.B 04

“Let the wise also hear and gain in learning, and the discerning acquire skill” Proverbs 1:5 (NRSVCE)

| Created, Draft | First Tabling | Review |
|----------------|---------------|---|
| May 17, 2021 | May 27, 2021 | Click here to enter a date. |

L. DiMarco, Superintendent of Curriculum Leadership & Innovations; Academic ICT

INFORMATION REPORT

Vision:

At Toronto Catholic we transform the world through witness, faith, innovation and action.

Mission:

The Toronto Catholic District School Board is an inclusive learning community uniting home, parish and school and rooted in the love of Christ.

We educate students to grow in grace and knowledge to lead lives of faith, hope and charity.

Brendan Browne, PhD
Director of Education

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Associate Director
of Academic Affairs

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Associate Director of Facilities,
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Development



A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

According to the TCDSB Policy B.B. 04 Smoke and Vapour Free Space, the TCDSB is committed to the provision of a smoke, vapour and tobacco free environment in all premises and on all properties, owned and/or operated by the Board. The data indicate a significant decline in the number of incidents recorded and suspensions issued.

The cumulative staff time required to prepare this report was 15 hours.

B. PURPOSE

Consistent with Policy B.B. 04, an annual report is presented to the Board of Trustees by staff detailing the compliance and infractions of this particular policy.

C. BACKGROUND

1. TCDSB Policy B.B. 04 was revised in May 2016 to include under the evaluation and metrics section requiring an annual report detailing compliance and infractions of this particular policy.
2. The Tobacco Enforcement Department of the Toronto Public Health Department does not publicly release the total number of school infractions under the Smoke Free Ontario Act.
3. Data was collected from the Safe School Progressive Discipline Platform in order to provide an analysis of smoking-related discipline imposed over time on students.
4. Annually, TCDSB principals have been responding to a survey containing questions related to the compliance and number of infractions associated with this policy (Appendix A).
5. In May 2020, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, a survey was not conducted.
6. In May 2021, the survey was administered once again.

D. EVIDENCE/RESEARCH/ANALYSIS

1. This year's results indicate no incidents and suspensions recorded in the progressive discipline platform for secondary students who have been disciplined for smoking and only 5 for elementary students. The chart below

indicates the number of incidents and suspensions since 2013-2014 in both elementary and secondary schools:

| Year | Elementary School Totals | | Secondary School Totals | |
|-----------|--------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| | Incidents | Suspensions | Incidents | Suspensions |
| 2013-2014 | 5 | 1 | 120 | 88 |
| 2014-2015 | 2 | 2 | 113 | 69 |
| 2015-2016 | 3 | 2 | 78 | 66 |
| 2016-2017 | 4 | 1 | 65 | 47 |
| 2017-2018 | 0 | 0 | 64 | 44 |
| 2018-2019 | 29 | 8 | 74 | 45 |
| 2019-2020 | N/D | N/D | N/D | N/D |
| 2020-2021 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 0 |

2. Highlights from the 2020-2021 survey sent to school administrators are included below:

- 196 responses (176 Principals, 18 Vice Principals and 2 Other) from 196 schools (only 1 elementary school did not respond)
- 27% of respondents indicated a requirement for additional signs at the entrances and exits of their locations
- There have been no students, visitors or employees charged with an infraction for smoking under the Smoke Free Ontario Act.
- The total number of schools reporting infractions for students, visitors and staff are as follows:

| Total No. of Infractions Reported | # Schools | Breakdown of infractions reported: | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------------|---------|-------------|
| | | Students | Visitor | TCDSB staff |
| 1 infraction | 7 | 4 | 2 | 1 |
| 2 infractions | 3 | 2 | 0 | 1 |
| 3 infractions | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 4 infractions | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 5 infractions | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |

- There have been a total of 4 calls from 3 administrators to the Tobacco Enforcement Department to enforce the Smoke Free Ontario Act at their school.
- There have been a total of 5 student discipline issues recorded into the Progressive Discipline Incident Log in 4 schools

- Schools communicate the policy on smoking/vaping mainly through the following channels (shown as a % of 196 respondents):
 - Staff meetings (58%),
 - Student Agenda books (45%),
 - PA announcements (28%),
 - Assemblies (23%), and
 - Newsletters (31%)

- 3. The Facilities department will work with all area Service Quality Supervisors (SQS) to provide the proper signage at each entrance and location for their school building.

E. METRICS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

An annual report as required by Policy B.B. 04 is presented to the Board.

F. CONCLUDING STATEMENT

This report is for the consideration of the Board.