



Resolution In Support Of Comprehensive Tobacco Free School Policies in North Dakota Schools

Whereas, tobacco use is the leading preventable cause of death and disease in the U.S. and in North Dakota; and

Whereas, 88 percent of adult tobacco users report starting before the age of 18 and each day more than 3,000 young people in the US try smoking for the first time; and

Whereas, in 2013, 19 percent of North Dakota's high school students were current cigarette smokers and 13.8 percent were current spit tobacco users, both of which are near or above adult use rates in North Dakota; and

Whereas, the 2013 North Dakota Youth Tobacco Survey revealed that electronic cigarette use among youth in grades 9 through 12 has nearly tripled from 4.5% in 2011 to 13.4% in 2013, and

Whereas, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in its "Best Practices for Comprehensive Tobacco Control Programs" recommends implementing Comprehensive Tobacco Free School Policies to prevent tobacco use initiation because they reshape the environment to support tobacco-free norms (sample policy can be found at www.breatheND.com);

Therefore, be it resolved that the North Dakota Public Health Association encourages all North Dakota school boards to adopt and enforce a Comprehensive Tobacco Free School Policy.

Signed:  Date 9-23-2014

References

Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids. Toll of Tobacco in the U.S. <http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/research/factsheets/pdf/0072.pdf>

Dept. of Public Instruction. (2013). ND Youth Risk Behavior Survey. http://www.dpi.state.nd.us/health/YRBS/2013/2013_ND_High_School_Statewide_YRBS_Report.pdf

National Youth Tobacco Survey. http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/data_statistics/surveys/nyts/

BreatheND. Model Policy for Comprehensive Tobacco Free Schools. <http://breathend.com/uploads/resources/1246/nd-comprehensive-model-tobacco-free-school-policy---august-2013-4-4-14.pdf>