

# **Pataula Charter Academy and Spring Creek Charter Academy Tobacco-Free Campus Policy**

**Purpose:** The purpose of this policy is to protect the health and safety of the Pataula Charter Academy (PCA) and Spring Creek Charter Academy (SCCA) school leaders, administration, staff, students, guests, and visitors to the campus and create a healthier and cleaner campus environment.

**Definitions:** For the purposes of this policy...

Smoking - is defined as the use of smoke-producing tobacco products, such as cigarettes, cigars, cigarillos, mini-cigars, and hookah.

Tobacco Use – is defined as the use of any tobacco products including, but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, cigarillos, mini-cigars, hookah, spit tobacco, snuff, and other smokeless tobacco.

E-cigarette use or Vaping – is defined as the use of electronic smoking devices or electronic nicotine delivery systems. FDA-approved cessation aids, such as nicotine patches and gum, are not included in this category.

**Policy Statement:** The use of tobacco (including cigarettes, cigars, pipes, smokeless tobacco, e-cigarettes, vapes, and all other tobacco products) by PCA/SCCA school leaders, administration, staff, students, guests, visitors, and contractors is prohibited on all properties owned or leased by PCA/SCCA including, but not limited to, the following:

- all interior space on the PCA/SCCA campus as well as property leased by PCA/SCCA, including any remote sites;
- all outside property or grounds on the PCA/SCCA campus, including areas such as walkways, breezeways, parking lots, and patios;
- all outside property leased by PCA/SCCA;
- all vehicles owned or leased by PCA/SCCA;
- all indoor or outdoor athletic facilities owned or leased by PCA/SCCA.

**Compliance:** All PCA/SCCA leaders, administration, staff, students, visitors, guests, and contractors are required to comply with this policy, which shall remain in effect at all times. Refusal to comply with this policy may be cause for disciplinary action in accordance with employee and student conduct policies. Refusal to comply with the policy by visitors, guests, and contractors may be grounds for removal from campus.

## **Exemptions:**

1. The use of tobacco products in laboratory and classroom instruction/experiments, or for artistic purposes. All research, educational, and/or artistic purposes that involve the use of tobacco on campus must be approved in advance by the Principal.
2. Specific activities used in connection with the practice of cultural activities by American Indians that are in accordance with the American Indian Religious Freedoms Act, 42 U.S.C. sections 1996 and 1996a allow for the use of ceremonial tobacco. All ceremonial use exceptions must be approved in advance by the Principal.

Approved: 3/20/2017

Amended: 6-21-21