



# ÉCOLE CHAMPS VALLÉE SCHOOL

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Principal: Patrick Gamache Hutchison

Assistant Principals: Brendan Wyant & Kim Engler

## Illegal Substance Possession

Dear Parents/Guardians and Caregivers:

The Black Gold School Division (BGSD) supports our communities with concerns of student possession and use of illegal substances in schools.

*Please note:* As per Alberta law; All BGSD buildings, facilities, vehicles, and grounds are designated tobacco and cannabis free zones. Smoking, vaping or consuming tobacco or cannabis is prohibited in any form. This includes but is not limited to: oils, edibles, vaporizers, snuff, electronic cigarettes, water pipes/pipes, hookahs and other paraphernalia

**Let us be clear; it is not permissible to smoke anything, anywhere on school property.**

By smoking on school property, students are infringing upon other students' rights to have a safe, clean and welcoming school environment.

In Alberta, the minimum age for purchasing and consuming alcohol, cannabis, and tobacco is 18 years. It is illegal to give, sell or provide in any way, or offer such products to minors. It is important for all of us to do our part to keep schools free of illicit drugs, alcohol and tobacco.

We strive to respond to risky behaviors before they become problematic by running prevention programs to support students in making appropriate choices, and providing guidance to students and their families to assist them in addressing addictions concerns. If you or your child has concerns, please contact your school administration or counselor.

Our priority is to work in **partnership with parents & guardians** to continue supporting and educating our students about the dangers of illegal substance possession and use. Our schools host assemblies and bring in speakers to inform students of the risk factors around engaging in such behaviours. **But you as parents are still their first teachers and mentors.**

Your school has information and resources that they will share with you to help you work with your child(ren) to help them avoid risky behaviours - call them.

The vast majority of students do not use or carry illegal substances at school. They



deserve to have safe and clean washrooms free from smoke and odors, and free from threats, intimidation, harassment or peer-pressure behaviours from others.

When students are found to be in possession of, or have used, an illegal substance(s) during school hours, the following disciplinary actions may take place at the discretion of the principal:

- **Possession of illegal products and substances:**
  - May result in a one day in-school or out-of-school suspension, increasing in length with repeated offences
- **Use of illegal products and substances:**
  - May result in a three-day out-of-school suspension, increasing in length with repeated offences
  - May result in referral to the RCMP / School Resource Officer (SRO)
- Searches of property are permitted with reasonable grounds and must follow the BGSD [Administrative Procedure 354](#)

**As partners in your child's education, we strongly urge you to work with your children to have them not engage in these behaviours at school, or to bring these types of illicit products to school with them.**

If you have any questions regarding this fair notice, please contact your school principal or counselor.

Let's start this school year off on a healthy note.

Sincerely,  
École Champs Vallée School

### **Resources for Parents**

[Gov't of Canada](#)

[What we do and don't know about vaping](#)

[What vaping does to the body](#)

[Vaping and Teens GoA](#)

[Tobacco and Vaping AHS](#)

[Tobacco and Vaping Resources for Teachers AHS](#)

[Tip sheet for parents](#)

