



Southeast Kootenay School District (No. 5)
From the Office of the Director of Student Learning

Cannabis Legalization

TO: Principals and Vice-Principals

On October 17th, cannabis will become legal for adults in British Columbia. While many updates are coming, cannabis will continue to be illegal for youth under the age of 19 to buy, possess or use in British Columbia. The October 12th Deputy Minister of Education's bulletin on legalization clearly stated the continued ban on cannabis on British Columbia school properties:

Use of cannabis on school properties will continue to be against the law, along with tobacco smoking and vaping. Smoking of vaping tobacco or cannabis is also illegal on playgrounds, sports fields, skate parks and other places where children and youth spend time.

As such we do not anticipate any significant changes in school level procedures or district policies around student use of cannabis products. In our District Code of Conduct, under the Regulations, (Policy 3.7R) the "possession, trafficking or non-medical use of alcohol or drugs" is outlined in the list of unacceptable conducts and the potential consequences for students is also clearly laid out in those regulations.

Below is the full Ministry Bulletin that you may find useful for further information, including links to the actual legislation:

<http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/bulletin/20181012/cannabis-use.pdf>

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any further questions, concerns or comments.

Jason Tichauer
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Southeast Kootenay School District