



TOWARDS A SCENT CONSIDERATE
SCHOOL/WORKPLACE ENVIRONMENT

The Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) recognizes that health concerns may arise from exposure to scented products. In order to ensure the health and well-being of students and employees with allergies and chemical sensitivities, all students, employees and visitors are to be considerate in their use of scented products when attending school district facilities or events.

SCENTED PRODUCT CATEGORIES

1. Personal Products

Hygiene: Products include, but are not limited to, cosmetics, perfumes, colognes, after-shave and scented shaving creams, deodorant, shampoo/conditioners, hair spray, lotions and creams.

Non Hygiene: Products include, but are not limited to, scented candles, potpourri and scented ornaments.

2. Non Personal Products

Products with a distinct scent or fragrance and include scented household/ industrial cleaning products, air fresheners, deodorizers, building materials (e.g. paint) and some types of flowers.

These lists are intended to be representative, not exhaustive.

In sufficient concentrations, chemically-scented products may trigger responses to those with allergies or chemical sensitivities. Reported symptoms can include, but are not limited to:

- Headaches, migraines
- Dizziness, lightheadedness
- Weakness
- Confusion
- Numbness
- Upper respiratory symptoms
- Skin irritation
- Nausea
- Fatigue
- Malaise
- Anxiety
- Difficulty with concentration
- Sinus congestion
- Loss of appetite

Out of respect for the health and safety of those with allergies or chemical sensitivities, the Board strongly encourages all staff, students and visitors to avoid or reduce the use of scented products and to replace them with unscented alternatives.

This list is intended to be representative, not exhaustive.

References:

- *Administrative Procedure: Towards a Scent Considerate School/Workplace Environment*
- *WorkSafeBC: Scent Safety in the Workplace*
- *Central Okanagan School District – Toward a Scent-Reduced School Environment*