

FIRE PREVENTION

General Policy Statement

In order to provide a fire safe environment in Waynesboro Public Schools' facilities and maintain consistency in interpretation and communication of the Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code (SFPC) and referenced standards of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), the Waynesboro School Board in partnership with the Waynesboro Fire Department will establish regulations to be followed by all school personnel and applicable to all school division facilities and properties.

Adopted: February 10, 2015

Legal Ref.: SFPC 807.4.3.2; 807.4.4.2

FIRE PREVENTION REGULATIONS

The provisions of code sections 807.4.3.2 and 807.4.4.2 apply only to corridors and hallways. The Waynesboro Fire Department believes that the individual classrooms should have an equivalent level of attention regarding fire safety and therefore recommends applying the code requirements to the classroom. The code section interpretations recommended by the Waynesboro Fire Department maintain some consistency with the code and to be fair and reasonable to the educational programs within the City, the following policies have been established.

SFPC 807.4.3.2 and 807.4.4.2 Artwork. *Artwork and teaching materials shall be limited on the walls of corridors to not more than 20 percent of the wall area.*

REGULATIONS

Corridors/Hallways:

1. Artwork and decorative materials shall not be suspended from the ceiling.
2. Artwork and decorative materials shall not be affixed to either side of any fire door, classroom exit door, or the area directly above a fire door or classroom exit door.
3. Artwork and decorative materials may be placed on the walls and kept a minimum of 18 inches away from any fire doors, exit doors and classroom egress doors.
4. Artwork and decorative materials shall not obstruct exits, exit lights, emergency egress lighting, fire alarm pull stations, and fire extinguishers and shall not reduce the effectiveness of smoke detectors, sprinkler heads, or any other fire protection or life safety components in the building.
5. Artwork and decorative materials shall not cover, or obscure by coloring, any fire alarm pull station, fire extinguisher, fire alarm panel, or electrical panel.
6. All exit doors shall remain unobstructed and unlocked from the side of exiting at all times.
7. Artwork and decorative materials shall not be within three feet of any heat producing equipment.
8. Artwork and decorative materials shall not be placed so that more than 20 percent of the entire wall area is covered.

Classrooms:

The code sections 807.4.3.2 and 807.4.4.2 do not permit the hanging or attaching of items to the ceilings of corridors, however, the Waynesboro Fire Department will allow a percentage of the classroom ceiling to have hangings from them. Artwork and decorative material may be hung from the ceiling by means of wire, fishing line or the like running parallel to a wall in classrooms providing:

1. Wire, rope, string, or the like shall not to be suspended across the center of the classroom
2. Shall be no more than 12 inches from the wall
3. The lowest part of the suspended display shall be 7 feet above the floor
4. Shall not be placed above the classroom egress door
5. Do not obstruct any means of the building's fire protection system
6. Are used exclusively to enhance the teaching atmosphere.

Artwork and decorative materials shall not be affixed to either side of any fire door, classroom exit door, or the area directly above a classroom exit door. **Exception** being 1 laminated sign for notices of food allergies, maximum size of 8 ½ inches X 11 inches.

Lamination is not an equivalent to a fire retardant treatment.

Artwork and decorative materials may be placed on the walls and kept a minimum of 18 inches away from any fire doors and classroom exit doors. With the Exception being; Exit plan, emergency information and occupant safety notices.

Artwork and decorative materials may be attached to non-fire rated doors in accordance with the guidelines stated herein, unless the non-fire rated door is determined to be an exit door from a classroom or other area (i.e. closet door in a classroom but not from a classroom bathroom door)

Artificial vegetation shall be noncombustible, or treated with a flame retardant material, and shall not obstruct any portion of an exit, be kept at least three feet from any heat producing equipment (i.e. artificial trees close to lamps.)

Artwork and decorative materials shall not obstruct exits, exit lights, emergency egress lighting, fire alarm pull stations, and fire extinguishers and shall not reduce the effectiveness of smoke detectors, sprinkler heads, or any other fire protection or life safety components in the building.

Fabric wall or window coverings, curtains, drapes, etc. shall be fire retardant, or treated with a fire retardant with an application schedule based on the manufacturer's recommendations and a log kept on what materials have been treated and when.

Classroom storage shall be kept 18 inches from the ceiling for a sprinklered structure or 24 inches from the ceiling for a non-sprinklered structure.

Artwork and decorative materials shall not be within three feet of any heat producing equipment.