

Williamston High School Vaping Information October 2019

Dear WHS families,

As you may recall, last year I emailed a letter home regarding "vaping" amongst teenagers. I would like to provide families with updated information about this trend being <u>described as an epidemic</u> as it continues to be popular with adolescents locally as well as across the state and country.

According to <u>drugfree.org</u>, "Many substances can be vaped, but the most common are variations of flavored e-liquids which come in small bottles or pre-filled pods or cartridges.

- Flavored e-liquids come in thousands of flavors ranging from cotton candy and grape to king crab legs and hot dog.
- Flavored e-liquids with differing levels of <u>nicotine</u>. One of the more popular devices, Juul, contains 59 mg/ml of nicotine in each pod, the equivalent of a pack of cigarettes.
- Flavored e-liquids with marijuana. Marijuana can be vaped in a variety of forms including its dried leaves or using THC and/or <u>CBD</u> oil (THC is the psychoactive compound that creates a sense of being high)."

Very recently, there has been extensive reporting on vaping and related dangers and illness:

- Outbreak of Lung Injury Associated with E-Cigarette Use, or Vaping (CDC)
- Hundreds of people nationwide fall ill from vaping, including one death in L.A. County (LA Times)
- Dangers of vaping: Facts and statistics on health risks of e-cigarettes as lung illness causes teen deaths across U.S. (Newsweek)

In order to combat vaping amongst teens, <u>Michigan has banned the sale of flavored vape juice</u> as of October 2, and there are <u>federal</u> "anti-vaping" bills addressing the sale of vape products.

Additionally, there are many informational online resources and articles that provide suggestions and support on how to address vaping:

- Is my kid vaping? If so, what? And how do I help them quit? Here are tips for worried parents (USA Today)
- A Parent's Guide to Vaping (US News)
- Talk with Your Teen About E-cigarettes: A Tip Sheet for Parents (Surgeon General)

Finally, pictures of common vaping devices are below in an effort to keep you informed of some of the more popular shapes, sizes, and styles in which vapes exist:

<u>Dab & Vape Pens</u>: Used to vaporize THC which is the active chemical in marijuana. Disposable cartridges containing the liquid screw onto the pen. These <u>cartridges can be "bootleg" and contain dangerous chemicals</u>.



Sourin: A vape device used to vaporize vape juice that is either flavored or contains nicotine.



E Cigarette: Refillable device used to vaporize vape juice that is either flavored or contains nicotine.



<u>Juul (pronounced "jewel")</u>: a very popular vape that looks like a USB device, is small and easy to conceal. <u>Juul is currently under investigation by the FDA and several states for intentionally market their product to minors.</u>







I hope this information is informative. Thank you for your continued partnership in educating our students to make healthy and safe decisions.

Sincerely,

Steven C. Delp, PhD

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Principal