



Re: Substance Abuse and Electronic Smoking Devices

Dear Parents and Guardians,

In August parents had the opportunity to read and sign off on our Parent/Student Handbook which is available for review on our school website. At this time we would like to bring to your attention an addition to the handbook that is of great importance to the health and safety of your teenager.

As you may be aware, there has been a significant increase in the use of electronic smoking devices by high school students to “vape” tobacco and other products. Of real concern is that these devices are now being used to vape cannabis (marijuana) in liquid form. Given the uncertainty of what substances are contained in these odorless electronic smoking devices, school officials will search student's belongings if there is reasonable suspicion of possession of or use of electronic smoking devices.

Please be aware that due to the inability of school officials to verify the contents of such devices through visual or olfactory inspection, effective immediately, students who are discovered in possession of or using an electronic smoking device in the school building and/or on school grounds will be referred for immediate drug screening and mandatory medical examination. Please refer to our district's Substance Abuse Policy and Regulation 5530 on our District website.

Please be advised that the disciplinary action for use of or possession of electronic smoking devices is a four day out-of-school suspension. Based on the results of the drug screen and mandatory medical examination, the suspension could be increased to nine days. This information is contained on page 12 of the online Student/Parent Handbook.

It is our hope that through the efforts of home and school, our students will refrain from using such devices. We strongly encourage you to have a conversation with your child about the dangers of electronic cigarettes. We have provided a number of links for your review regarding this issue.

<https://drugfree.org/drug/e-cigarettes-vaping/>
<https://grownandflown.com/vaping-parents-need-know/>

Thank you for your anticipated cooperation.