

North Branford Intermediate School

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Dear Parents/Guardians:

We would like to take a moment to address a national phenomenon that is appearing in schools across the country. The use of vaporizing devices, sometimes referred to as e-cigarettes, juuls, hookah pens, monqs, etc., have grown exponentially on the national level. "Vaping" is the act of inhaling vapor produced by a vaporizer or electronic cigarette. The vapor is produced from a material such as an e-liquid, concentrate, or dry herb. These e-liquids often contain nicotine. The sales marketing of these devices is directly aimed at teenagers and young adults. Science has yet to determine for certain whether or not vaping is any safer than smoking tobacco. What we do know is that nicotine is highly addictive and can affect brain development in adolescents.

Under Connecticut law, the purchase or possession of electronic nicotine delivery systems or vapor products to persons under the age of 18 is prohibited. Smoking of any kind and possession of vaporizers, e-cigarettes, and nicotine products is prohibited at NBIS (including on the bus and during school functions) and will result in discipline, as outlined on pages 20-22 in the student handbook.

Please communicate the dangers of smoking and nicotine use with your children. This topic, as well as others concerning healthy decision-making is covered within our health curriculum. Together we share a passionate concern for our children's health and well-being. With the intense direct advertising and peer pressure to use vaporizers, we must stay vigilant to keep our children free from these risky behaviors. Go to the link below for more information and data on this topic. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

<https://e-cigarettes.surgeongeneral.gov/>

Sincerely,



Keith O'Rourke
Interim Principal



Meghan Ruszczyk
Interim Assistant Principal