

Miller Place Union Free School District

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November 15, 2018

Dear Parents, Guardians and Staff:

The issue of youth vaping and use of electronic cigarettes, especially those that include various flavors, is reaching epidemic levels. Recently the Center for Disease Control issued a national health alert due to the dangerous negative impact vaping is having on the health of teenagers.

On Wednesday, December 12, 2018, at 7:00pm the District will be hosting a very important presentation, at Miller Place High School, to continue this important discussion for all parents, guardians and staff.

Please take a minute to watch this student-made video regarding the dangers of vaping/juuling:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7EsNG7RcStQ>

Important variables surrounding this national health crisis include:

There is a higher risk for addiction in youth under the age of 25, as this is when there is the most brain development other than infancy. The earlier a child is introduced to addictive substances, the more it changes their brain development by altering their dopamine cycles. Ninety percent of addicts started using brain-altering substances as young teens.

Excessive levels of nicotine cause young people to become quickly addicted.

Chemicals are toxic, but as a collective inhalant, they are being considered almost lethal.

The toxins being inhaled and absorbed into teenagers' bodies are having long-term effects on their lungs, kidneys, and other major organs.

Vape ingredients are considered one of the causes of "popcorn lung cancer."

Vaping allows water vapor to stay within their lungs and can cause illness if their lungs hold moisture.

Teenagers are the marketing target group.

High School student suspensions are increasing, as the devices are a violation of Code of Conduct policies.

Vaping has entered the college admissions process with consequences for admissions, grants and scholarships candidates, as it is being viewed as an indication of negative behavior.

Please, please, please – regardless of the age of your child, or children, please plan to attend this important meeting on December 12th.

Thank you.

Dr. Marianne F. Cartisano

Superintendent of Schools

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