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Dear Hatter Families,

I am writing you to inform you of a recent rise in popularity of the nicotine-delivery devices such as the JUUL (Jewel). These fall under the category of vaping and we have seen an increase in use on our campus. Vaping is the use of an electronic device that allows a nicotine-infused capsule or oils to be smoked without easy detection. On the DHS campus we have seen an increase in use in places like the bathrooms, outside during lunch, and even a case during class.

In discussing the recent increase with some parents and educators, we have found many parents are unfamiliar with vaping, what is actually in the oils, and the apparatuses themselves. This letter will provide some resources so that you can gather the basic knowledge and a way to recognize such devices.

A JUUL is basically an electronic cigarette (e-Cig) that looks like a memory stick or “thumb drive” many people use to transfer documents from home to school or work.

In fact, users may plug the device into a USB port on their computer, which will provide the charge necessary for the user to take “a hit.” Flavored cartridges can be inserted into the other end of the device. According to the advertisements, each pod contains 200 puffs, or the equivalent of a pack of cigarettes. The packaging is sleek, and the device is small enough to hide easily in one’s hand or in a pocket. Here is an image:



While JUUL is being marketed as a way to quit smoking, it is still a device that delivers addictive nicotine and other toxins. Like all tobacco products, it should not be considered safe and is, in fact, illegal for those under the age of 18 to use. These devices are easily accessible in local convenience stores. You may also see products with the company name “PAX,” which manufactures e-cigarettes.

While all forms of e-cigarettes are NOT allowed in school, we have seen an increase in their presence. If a staff member discovers any tobacco or nicotine-infused product in a student’s possession, it is confiscated and destroyed. Students will also be subject to disciplinary action for using or possessing a product while in school.

***“Empowering all students to be informed and productive citizens”***

We bring this information to you as a means of partnering to keep the spread of popularity of such devices in check. While information on JUUL is limited since it is a relatively new product, you can learn more about the dangers of e-cigarettes at:

<http://www.lung.org/stop-smoking/smoking-facts/e-cigarettes-and-lung-health.html?referrer=https://www.google.com/>

[https://drive.google.com/a/danbury.k12.ct.us/file/d/0B1\\_4d\\_hymdu6WHpTOWxMaEZSa0Z1N2NROHdNcE93b0hMZGdJ/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/a/danbury.k12.ct.us/file/d/0B1_4d_hymdu6WHpTOWxMaEZSa0Z1N2NROHdNcE93b0hMZGdJ/view?usp=sharing)

[https://drive.google.com/a/danbury.k12.ct.us/file/d/0B1\\_4d\\_hymdu6TUh1LXc5bjhiOVk/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/a/danbury.k12.ct.us/file/d/0B1_4d_hymdu6TUh1LXc5bjhiOVk/view?usp=sharing)

We hope this information is useful to you in monitoring the health and safety of your children at home as we keep watch over them during the school day. If you have questions beyond the resources provided, please feel free to contact us.

Best,

Daniel E. Donovan,  
Principal