

PLUM BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Exceptionally Prepared for Success

Dear Plum Families,

The use of vaping devices has been on the rise in public schools across the nation. The United States Surgeon General, Dr. Jerome Adams, has classified vaping as an epidemic, qualifying it as a new public health concern. With the staggering increase in usage and product entries into the market, the Plum Borough School District has joined the battle against youth vaping.¹

The District's first step in combating the increase in the use of vaping devices is the implementation of [Policy 222.1](#) which was adopted by the Plum Borough School Board in December 2018. This policy prohibits the possession, use, exchange or sale of any vaping device or vaping paraphernalia by students, or any person, at any time in a school building and on any property, buses, vans, and vehicles that are owned, leased or controlled by the District. The policy creates the foundation for our efforts to keep our students and our schools safe.

Our second step related to this fight is to educate our staff, parents and community members about this danger. This includes on-campus training, student conversations, and the continuous dissemination of information throughout the spring of this year. Our efforts also include a Public Service Announcement for all fifth and sixth graders, junior high students, and high school students, encouraging awareness of the new policy and the risks associated with vaping.

Please continue to visit the District website for more information regarding the hazards of vaping at www.pbsd.net/VapingInfo.aspx. Contact your child's school counselor or building administrator if you need assistance or have any additional concerns.

Keeping our schools safe,
The Plum Borough School District

1. In 2018, "...more than 3.6 million middle and high school students reported they had used an e-cigarette, a sharp increase from the 1.5 million students who reported use in the last 30 days in 2017. One in five high school students and one in 20 middle school students use e-cigarettes. Teens [also] reported more frequent use of e-cigarettes and flavored nicotine products.

