



# Huntingdon Area School District



## **SECONDARY SCHOOLS**

Mr. Travis R. Lee,  
Secondary Principal

### **Huntingdon Area Middle School**

Mrs. Amy J. Mykut, Assistant Principal  
2500 Cassady Avenue, Huntingdon, PA 16652  
(814)643-2900

### **Huntingdon Area High School**

Mr. Nicholas A. Payne, Assistant Principal  
2400 Cassady Avenue, Suite 1, Huntingdon, PA 16652  
(814)643-1080

September 17, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Last spring, the secondary school administrators sent a parent update about the potentially hazardous trends and behaviors among adolescents in regards to “Juuling,” eCigarettes, and vaping. Many schools have continued to see a rise in these behaviors, so we are sharing an updated resource about this topic, as well as the original message that was previously sent. Please review this information and speak with your learners about this topic. Please note that possession of these materials on school property is prohibited.

The National Association for Secondary School Principals (NASSP) has shared a link for the *Education Week* article title “Teen Vaping Has Hit “Epidemic Proportions,” FDA Leader Says in Enforcement Call.” You can use this link

([http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/rulesforengagement/2018/09/teen\\_vaping\\_hits\\_epidemic\\_proportions\\_fda\\_commissioner\\_says\\_calling\\_for\\_enforcement.html?cmp=eml-contshr-shr](http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/rulesforengagement/2018/09/teen_vaping_hits_epidemic_proportions_fda_commissioner_says_calling_for_enforcement.html?cmp=eml-contshr-shr) ) to navigate to the article, which also provides a helpful video.

We want to work together to keep all learners safe, and to help in educating them in making healthy decisions and lifestyle choices. Again, please review the information that is shared in the rest of this update, and contact the school with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Travis Lee  
Secondary Principal

Amy Mykut  
MS Assistant Principal

Nicholas Payne  
HS Assistant Principal

### **Previous Message (March 28, 2018)**

In an effort to keep our learners safe and to make you aware of potentially hazardous trends and behaviors among today's adolescents, we are sending you this information. One of those new trends is called 'Juuling.' Juuling is a discrete form of vaping, that has potentially long-term negative health effects. Being in possession of a Juul or using one on school property is prohibited.

[Juul](#) is a name-brand vaping device that is sleek, small, easily concealable and most often mistaken for a computer thumb drive. Sometimes, the device is no larger than a couple of inches long and 0.5 inches wide. The devices are so inconspicuous and innocent looking that it is difficult to spot. In fact, someone might be looking at a vaping device like a Juul and not even know it.

The use of a Juul or other electronic cigarette works by heating a liquid substance that is inhaled by the user. The type of liquid can vary from flavored water-type mixtures to nicotine or marijuana. Unfortunately, "juuling" has become a hot trend for adolescents, since many children believe it is safer than smoking tobacco. Please consider talking about the dangers of electronic cigarettes, vaping, and juuling.

We also wanted to make you aware of an eye-opening resource that could assist you with monitoring space if you suspect that your child is in risky, unhealthy behaviors. Through our work with local law enforcement agencies and substance prevention specialists, we have learned that children who are using drugs, will often "hide" it in their rooms, "in plain sight". Again, you may be looking at a controlled substance and not even know it! Please see the link below, which was developed through a collaborative effort led by the Lehigh County Drug and Alcohol Abuse Services, to learn more about potential hiding spots that are used by adolescents to conceal their drugs, alcohol and/or related paraphernalia.

<https://home.lehighcounty.org/DrugAndAlcohol/InteractiveBedroom/Index>

If you think your child has a behavior that puts them at risk, which could include the use of nicotine, drugs and/or alcohol, please contact our counseling office at the Middle School 814-643-2900 or the High School 814-643-1080, for assistance in identifying community-based resources. For more material, check out the online site, [WebMD](#), which also has wonderful information about vaping or juuling.

If you or your children wish to report an incident that is hazardous and could involve drugs or alcohol, please use any of these options:

1. Report the incident to a trusted adult and employee of the school district.
2. Report the incident by contacting the PA State Police or the Huntingdon Borough Police.