



March 10, 2020

Dear Stratford Middle School Parents/Guardians,

Adolescent vaping continues to be a concern, both across the nation and here at Stratford Middle School. The Food and Drug Administration cites a study that indicates vaping has increased by 50% among middle schoolers since last year, and we continue to encounter students with vape devices in their possession.

This letter is to:

- 1. Inform you of continued education that we will provide students during the school day in the coming weeks to protect them against the dangers and pressures of vaping.**
- 2. Invite you and your child to a dinner and informational session about the dangers and pressures of vaping at Stratford Middle School on Monday, April 6 at 6:30 p.m.**

Throughout April, each grade level will attend a presentation that will cover how to resist peer and media pressures, the negative health effects of vaping, school disciplinary measures, and reiterate that underage vaping is considered a criminal offense in some municipalities. Presenters will include Stratford administrators, local law enforcement officers, and CCSD93 Registered Nurse Pam Camposeo.

This program will supplement the Coordinated Approach to Child Health (CATCH) My Breath lessons that have been added to the physical development/health curriculum this school year, which also teach students about the negative health effects of vaping and strategies to resist pressures to use vaping devices.

As our partner in your child's education, it is crucial for your child to hear consistent messages about this subject from you while they are not in school. For this reason, we invite you and your child to Stratford Middle School on April 6 at 6:30 p.m. to participate in a similar presentation. Parents will have an opportunity to receive the information about vaping that students have received, see firsthand the variety of vaping devices that are available and how easily they can be hidden, and ask questions. Free pizza and soft drinks will be provided, and Spanish translators will be available.

Student health and safety are our highest priorities, and I hope that you will be able to join us on April 6. Please feel free to contact me at dawsonp@ccsd93.com or 630-671-4300 if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Patrick Dawson
Principal
Stratford Middle School

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