

Parent Advisory

In an effort to keep your student and our campus safe, we are providing you with the following images of items that have been seen on California high school campuses in recent months. Students in possession of these items have been suspended and/or expelled from school districts, and we wanted you as parents to be aware in case you notice anything similar among your child's belongings.

Edible Marijuana

As seen in the images below, edible marijuana can be placed in a variety of cookies, brownies, and candies, and the packaging is often designed to look very similar to a regular cookie or candy. While these products look innocent, a recent study of Denver emergency rooms noted that "edibles may be more potent and potentially dangerous" and "induced a disproportionate number of pot-related medical crises."



Vapor Cigarettes or E-Cigarettes

These battery-operated inhalers often look like pens or USB devices. While Juul and other e-cigarette/vaping companies have claimed their product isn't dangerous, the World Health Organization says electronic cigarettes are "undoubtedly harmful" because of nicotine addiction (e-cigarettes can deliver nicotine more than twice as quickly as tobacco cigarettes). E-cigarettes and vaping are also dangerous as a potential gateway to drug use, and because of aerosol inhalation that can cause lung complications (over 200 severe respiratory disease diagnoses in the U.S. this year, including one confirmed death due to vaping induced respiratory illness in Illinois). A 2017 survey found that more than 2 million middle and high school students were current users of e-cigarettes.



Students often claim they're innocent devices because they don't have nicotine, but the truth is that a variety of liquids can be used with an e-cigarette, including liquid with nicotine and marijuana oil. In recent years, several vape pens have come in disguised packages like highlighters or car keys (below).



E-cigarette and vaping companies have targeted their marketing to youth, as seen in the images of vaping juice flavors made to look like common snacks below. A recent study found that 81% of young people cite the availability of appealing flavors as the primary reason for use. Fortunately, the FDA has removed several of these flavors, but we still want parents to be aware that such products exist.



Drug-Related Imagery

Students choosing to wear clothes like this are affiliating themselves with drug use and telling the world that drug/marijuana culture is an important part of who they are. If your child owns any clothing like this, it is not allowed on our campus, and we recommend having a conversation with your child about what's important to them.



Sources:

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<https://truthinitiative.org/research-resources/tobacco-industry-marketing/4-marketing-tactics-e-cigarette-companies-use-target>

<https://www.nbcnews.com/health/vaping/michigan-bans-flavored-e-cigarettes-curb-youth-vaping-epidemic-n1049526>

<https://www.vox.com/science-and-health/2019/9/3/20847219/vaping-health-risks-2019-lung-damage-death>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/03/25/well/eat/marijuana-edibles-may-pose-special-risks.html>