



Hobart Police Department

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March 1, 2022

Dear Parents & Students,

I feel it is important to reach out and make sure parents are aware of the trends in nicotine and drug use with our school age children. An informed Parent can best see the warning signs which may exist, before anyone in school or public notices. In many instances by the time the Police or School become involved, the drug or nicotine problem has most likely been manifesting for a period of time. Vaping or Juuling among teenagers has become more widespread through the years. According to the Indiana Youth Survey, nearly 1 in 4 12th graders and 1 in 6 10th graders are reporting they have used an electronic Vapor product within the last month.

As time progresses we are seeing more use of Vaping or Juuling to introduce THC, the chemical in marijuana responsible for its psychological effects. Vaping or Juuling THC does not produce nearly as strong of an odor commonly associated with smoking marijuana. This is not to say every person who uses a Vape or Juul is using THC in it, but we are seeing an uptick of these in our region over time.

So, parents can watch out for some early indicators. I want to talk about the designs and language that goes with these devices. Many of these devices are made to be very discrete, small, or like other common items. These devices may look like USB drives, markers, pens, or watches, so they may be hidden, in plain sight, to the untrained eye and are constantly changing.

Many teenagers often have slang or hidden words to talk about Juuling or Vaping to avoid raising suspicion. Many of the words to watch out for, associated with these devices, are: cart, blank, pod, Dab, Dab pen, Mod, Nic, Oil, Rig, Stig, E-juice. Some of the most common brands of these devices are Juul, Mr. Fog, Blu, Njoy, Vuse, Box, Suorin, Novo, Bivi, HQD, Puff, Posh, Stig and 710.

I know this is a great deal of information, but with the trends shifting from smoking marijuana to vaping it, I want parents to be informed and have conversations with their children. When THC is used in vape products the concentrations are often higher and delivered quicker, sometimes resulting in health issues. Please know that our SRO's in cooperation with School City of Hobart Staff are always available to speak to about what is going on with our children. Students who are found in possession of nicotine cartridges or devices will be cited with the offense as the current legal age is 21 (I.C. 35-46-1-10.5). All Vape products confiscated are tested for THC, and those with illegal levels of THC are charged with possession of marijuana. We view our students well-being and safety as a number one priority and will continue to work collaboratively with the School City.

Sincerely,

Chief Garrett Ciszewski