

MacMichael, Mary

To: MacMichael, Mary
Subject: FW: Vaping - GHS

From: Sneathen, Danielle <dsneathen@gpsd.us>
Sent: Thursday, September 19, 2019 1:09 PM
To: MacMichael, Mary <mmacmichael@gpsd.us>
Cc: Silverstein, Mark <msilverstein@gpsd.us>
Subject: RE: Vaping - GHS

Vaping is an issue for schools across the nation and Glassboro is no exception. It has been an ongoing problem here since I came to GHS. I have had it added to the disciplinary guide and we test every student caught for CDS. We have trained the staff so they are aware of what the devices look like (although these change regularly) and what some of the vapors smell like. While some vapes have an odor it is important to note that some are odorless.

GHS hosted a community event, Hidden In Plain Sight, to raise awareness about vaping and the use of other illegal substances for the community. Sadly, this was poorly attended. Additionally, we have had multiple staff and parent trainings. We have added the dangers of vaping to the health curriculum.

At GHS all student bathrooms are locked during the day except for one set in the center hallway and the gender neutral single stall. During Bulldog Block the cafeteria bathrooms are also opened. Even with restricting bathroom access, it is difficult to monitor these facilities properly as we have only one full time and three part time security guards and we have no teachers on duty due to contractual restrictions.

Vaping has become even more dangerous in recent weeks with children and adults being hospitalized and even dying across the country. This is a completely unregulated industry, as I made the administrative staff here aware during an Administrative Council meeting with my choice of article.

Vaping is extremely easy to hide as the delivery devices are often small and masked to look like everyday items. The vapor is often blown directly into the air or into the students hooded sweatshirts. They even make backpacks with secretive compartments to hold the vapes.

Every colleague I have in Gloucester and Salem county and beyond shares my concerns with this public health concern and my frustration in trying to police it in our schools.