

Worth Police Department/Worth School District #127

#### LESSON OVERVIEW

- 1. E-cigarette Myths vs E-cigarette Facts
- 2. What are E-Cigarettes?
- 3. Nicotine
- 4. E-cigarette Marketing
- 5. E-cigarette Trends
- 6. E-cigarette Lung Illness
- 7. \*School or district\* e-cigarette policy
- 8. What can you do about the e-cigarette problem?
- 9. Additional Resources
- 10. Jeopardy!

#### E-CIGARETTE MYTHS

- A "safer alternative" to smoking
  - Safe to use/handle
  - Does not produce harmful second-hand smoke
- Emits harmless water vapor
- A method to help smokers quit
- Just inhaling flavors



- While possibly safer than traditional cigarettes, e-cigarettes are not safe
  - Been known to explode causing injuries
- No scientific evidence to support e-cigarettes as a smoking cessation method
- The Food and Drug Administration does not list e-cigarettes as an approved smoking cessation method

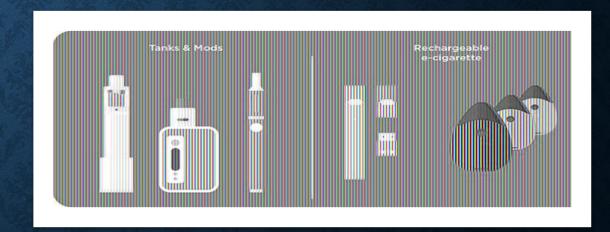
#### E-CIGARETTE FACTS

- Not harmless water vapor, but an aerosol
  - Contains nicotine
  - Ultrafine particles that can be inhaled deep into the lungs
  - Particles of heavy metals including lead, nickel, & tin
  - Flavorings like diacetyl, which can cause a condition known as popcorn lung
  - Contains known carcinogens
  - Chemicals found in car exhaust, antifreeze, herbicides, food additives



#### WHAT ARE E-CIGARETTES?

- Devices that produce an aerosol by heating a liquid that usually contains nicotine
  - A single JUUL pod contains as much nicotine as 20 regular cigarettes
- Also contain flavorings and other chemicals that create the aerosol
- Come in a variety of shapes and sizes
  - Some are big, bulky and do not resemble other tobacco products
  - Some resemble regular cigarettes, pens, flash drives



#### **NICOTINE**

- Nicotine is an addictive substance that is found in cigarettes
  - Most e-cigarettes also contain nicotine
- Levels of nicotine in e-cigarettes are uncertain
- Nicotine damages the adolescent brain, which continues developing until the age of
   25
- How nicotine affects the brain <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PqeEGpCQhBA">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PqeEGpCQhBA</a>
- Youths that use e-cigarettes are more likely to become traditional cigarette smokers

#### E-CIGARETTE MARKETING

- No restrictions on e-cigarette marketing allowing companies to promote their products on TV and radio
  - Do not have to follow ban from 1971 that cigarette companies have to follow
  - Due to vaping illness outbreak, multiple entertainment companies have dropped e-cigarette advertisements
- JUUL has relied heavily on social media to market their products
  - A recent study analyzing JUUL's Twitter account estimated that over 80% of their active followers were between the ages of 13 and 20
  - Following criticism of their role in causing the youth e-cigarette epidemic JUUL deleted their Facebook and Instagram





### Having way too much fun at the #JUUL launch party #LightsCameraVapor #NYC



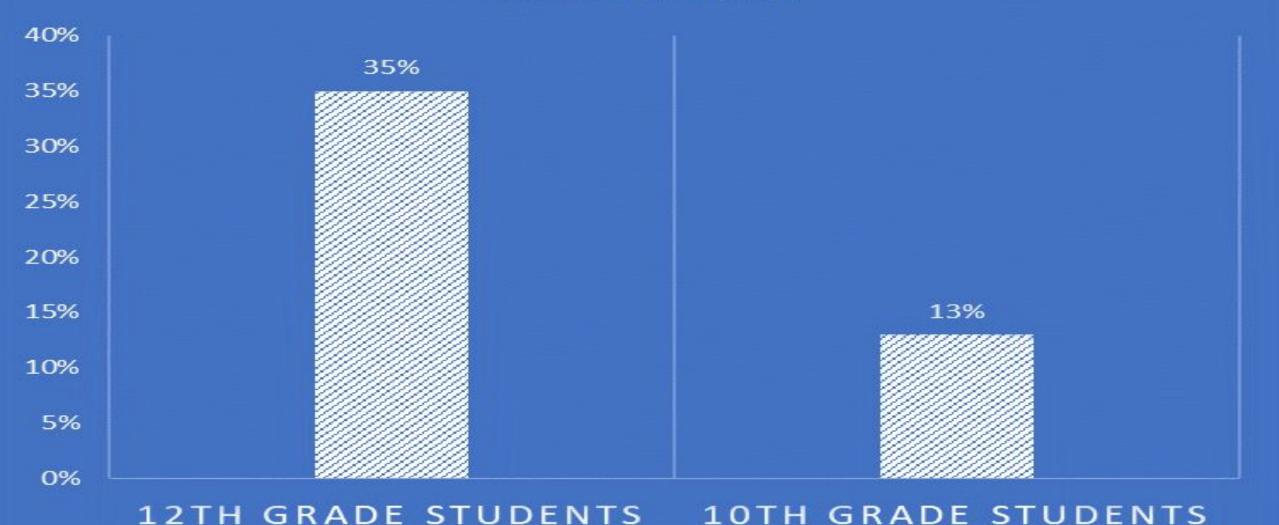
#### E-CIGARETTE TRENDS

- Most common reasons youth use e-cigarettes include:
  - 39% use by "friend or family member"
  - 31% because of flavors such as mint, candy, fruit, or chocolate
  - 17% belief that they are less harmful than other forms of tobacco such as cigarettes
- Throughout the U.S.
  - In 2018, more than 3.6 million middle and high school students used e-cigarettes in the past 30 days
    - 4.9% of middle school students
    - 20.8% of high school students
  - In 2017, only 2.8% of U.S. adults were current e-cigarette users

#### E-CIGARETTE TRENDS IN OUR COMMUNITY

- In 2018, the Illinois Youth Survey found that 27% of  $12^{th}$  grade high school students used e-cigarettes in the past 30 days
- In 2018, 35% of Will County 12<sup>th</sup> grade students used e-cigarettes in the past 30 days
  - This is a 60% increase from 12<sup>th</sup> grade students in 2016
  - In the 2016 survey, 13% of 10<sup>th</sup> grade students used e-cigarettes in the past 30 days
- E-cigarette use in the past 30 days doubled from 2016 to 2018 among 8<sup>th</sup> graders in Will County
- While the most commonly used products among youth are still e-cigarettes with pre filled pods or cartridges that contain e-liquid mixtures, the results of the latest National Youth Tobacco Survey show a concerning increase in youth use of disposables. In 2022, of the youth who currently use e-cigarettes, 57.2 percent of the high school students and 45.8 percent of the middle school students reported using disposables.

# E-CIGARETTE USE IN THE PAST 30 DAYS, WILL COUNTY ILLINOIS YOUTH SURVEY 2016 & 2018



#### E-CIGARETTE LUNG ILLNESS

- Outbreak of a severe lung illness associated with vaping
- Symptoms include:
  - Cough, shortness of breath, chest pain, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, fatigue, fever, and abdominal pain
- Reports vary for symptom development; reported over a few days to several weeks
- Over 1,888 cases across the country in 49 states, including 38 deaths
  - 79% of cases are younger than 35 years old
  - 40% of patients are 18 to 24 years old
  - Youngest patient that died was only 17 years old
- 166 cases in Illinois with 3 deaths
- No one substance or product has been linked to all cases

#### SCHOOL'S E-CIGARETTE USE POLICY

- \*Zero tolerance for students and staff.
- Disciplinary action.

## WHAT CAN YOU DO ABOUT THE E-CIGARETTE PROBLEM

- · Be tobacco free
  - If you haven't started using e-cigarettes or tobacco products, don't start
  - If you use e-cigarettes or tobacco products, the sooner you quit, the better
- Avoid secondhand e-cigarette aerosol exposure
- Help your school be e-cigarette free
- Spread the word about the risks of vaping
  - Talk to your friends/family members who use e-cigarettes about what you learned today



#### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- General Information on e-cigarettes/vaping
  - Illinois Department of Public Health e-cigarettes page
     http://www.dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/prevention-wellness/tobacco/e-cigarettes-and-vapes
  - https://www.bevapefree.org/parents-and-community/
- Resources to help you quit
  - Illinois Quitline <a href="https://quityes.org/">https://quityes.org/</a>
  - Smoke-Free Teen <a href="https://www.becomeanex.org/">https://www.becomeanex.org/</a>