



Fort Lee Public Schools

Fort Lee High School

3000 Lemoine Avenue ✧ Fort Lee, New Jersey 07024

Phone: 201.585.4675 ✧ Fax: 201.585.2296

www.FLBOE.com

Lauren Glynn, Principal	Phone: 201.585.4675 x6501	Email: lglynn@flboe.com
William Diaz, Assistant Principal	Phone: 201.585.4675 x6536	Email: wdiaz@flboe.com
Joseph Finizio, Assistant Principal	Phone: 201.585.4675 x6537	Email: jfinizio@flboe.com

April 19, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As you may be aware, there has been a significant increase in the use of “Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS),” commonly known as vapes and e-cigarettes by high school students to “vape” tobacco and other nicotine products.

Recently, however, an alarming new trend has arisen. Teens are no longer using these ENDS devices, referred to as “e-cigarettes,” simply to vape tobacco. These devices, now frequently referred to as “weed pens” and “weed vaporizers,” are instead being used to vape cannabis (marijuana) or other illegal substances. Of significant concern, these odorless devices are being loaded with marijuana concentrates that can contain up to 90% tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the principal psychoactive constituent of cannabis.

Given the uncertainty of what substances are contained in these odorless electronic smoking devices, the inability of school officials to verify the contents of such devices visually or by odor, and the documented prevalence of using electronic smoking devices to vape dangerous concentrations of marijuana and other illicit substances the Fort Lee Board of Education, at the March 19th public meeting, amended Policy and Regulation 5530 (Substance Abuse) to identify all vaping and e-cigarette devices as drug paraphernalia. Regulation 5530 has been amended to include the following: ***Students will also be immediately suspended upon the discovery of the possession and/or use of drugs or alcohol or drug/alcohol paraphernalia which includes vaping devices and e-cigarettes. The student can be suspended for up to 10 days. Students will also be required to obtain an immediate alcohol and/or drug test as well as a medical clearance to return to school.*** The purpose of this medical evaluation will be to provide appropriate health care and determine whether the student is, in fact, under the influence of marijuana or other drugs. We encourage you to review Policy and Regulation 5530, which is available on the District’s website and provides additional information regarding the examination procedures, together with the disciplinary consequences for students whose drug use is confirmed.

If you are aware or suspect your child is using electronic smoking devices and/or drugs/alcohol, we encourage you to contact our Student Assistance Counselor, Mr. David Cuozzo: dcuozzo@flboe.com or 201-585-4675; ext. 6621. Mr. Cuozzo can provide students and their families with related counseling and resources if necessary.

Sincerely,

Fort Lee Public Schools Administration