



Board of Education/Administration Office

137 Bey Lea Road • Toms River, NJ 08753-2703
(732) 240-6414 Fax # (732) 505-8929

January, 2020

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

Ocean County Vocational Technical School would like to stay on top of the recent findings surrounding vaping. Vaping is the act of inhaling a vapor produced by an electronic vaporizer or e-cigarette. Vaping has now become an epidemic to our young adults and we would like to inform our parents about this potentially dangerous health issue. Of course, our main concern is the health and safety of our students. There have been increasing incidences of severe respiratory illnesses that have hospitalized our youth. Unfortunately, there have also been an increase in deaths surrounding vaping as well.

Vaping devices come in various shapes and sizes and can be deceiving to those that are not aware. Devices look like pens, stylus for an i-Pad, a flash drive etc. These devices are usually very small and can be hidden on a person or carried in a backpack. The liquids used in the devices come in various flavors and are labeled with provocative names such as cinnamon roll, bubblegum, lemonade and other provoking flavors. Some young adults are using these electronic devices for the purpose of vaping marijuana.

Vaping is prohibited by the Ocean County Vocational Technical School Policy # 5533 found in our handbooks. All parents/guardians signed off and acknowledged their understanding of this policy. Should your child engage in vaping on school property, repercussions will be enforced to include suspension and drug testing.

The New Jersey Department of Health has created a public awareness campaign using the resources below. Feel free to review these sites and spread the word by sharing these resources.

www.VapeFactsNJ.com

www.Incorruptible.us

We hope you find this letter informative and understand our concerns about this potentially harmful issue. It is our attempt to partner with our parents and support our students to make positive decisions for themselves and their future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Karen Homiek".

Karen Homiek, Superintendent

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dr. Michael Maschi".

Dr. Michael Maschi, Assistant Superintendent