

# From The Super

# Buff News

## November 2022



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The online system can be found here:  
<https://report.anonymousalerts.com/giddingsisd/>

### GMS Real World Financial Literacy Program

Eighth Grade students at Giddings Middle School had the opportunity to experience life in the real world. The Real-World Financial Literacy Program is designed to introduce middle school students to the skills needed to financially navigate the adult world. Student participants make decisions regarding spending and life styles.

For this exercise, they have a monthly salary and then, they learn the importance of spending wisely (needs vs wants). This is a valuable and relevant lesson for students to learn. Ms. Tonya Poncik, Lee County Extension Agent and Texas A&M Agri-Life, along with volunteers from local business and financial organizations were on hand to share this experience with Giddings Middle School Students.



### GES Read or Treat

GES students recently received a wonderful treat of having guests read to them. Myself along with numerous other volunteers, including GHS student council members, read short books to students. Read or Treat serves as a way to introduce our young readers to the joy of reading.



### Student Vaping

I am sharing the following information in order to help educate our students, parents, and community about a growing problem in schools across the nation. My goal is to help inform everyone that there is a problem, why it exists, and to hopefully start a conversation that will lead to better outcomes for our students.

In recent years, students have been found in possession or in the act of vaping at GISD. The district responded by installing vape detectors in strategic locations in the hopes of discouraging vaping at school. These high tech detectors are able to distinguish between regular vape and THC vape. THC is the chemical responsible for most of marijuana's psychological effects and this chemical is being added to vape devices in order to produce the effects of marijuana through vaping.

Although the purchase of vapes and other tobacco products requires a person to be 21 years of age, a law on the books for 6 years (the 2018 Farm Bill) allows for anyone 21 or older to purchase a vape containing a variation of THC known as Delta-8 THC or Delta-10 THC. These variations of THC can be purchased over the counter in a variety of locations including some stores or vape shops. Research shows that these variations have very similar psychological effects as the illegal form of THC and vapes that contain these THC variations are falling into the hands of minors, including some of our students.

The vape detectors have alerted on a number of students vaping a THC vape that can be bought over the counter. According to GISD School Resource Officer Landis Lehmann, minors in possession of these vapes carry a Class C misdemeanor charge, just like alcohol. However, law enforcement officers are not able to issue misdemeanor citations to students for incidents occurring on public school property due to current state laws.

Giddings ISD still prohibits students from possessing these items on campus. The student code of conduct states "Students shall not possess or use Tobacco products, cigarettes, e-cigarettes, and any component, part, or accessory for an e cigarette device." The penalty for a non THC tobacco product or vape is 5 days of In School Suspension (ISS, also known as SAC) for the first offense. If a student is found to be in possession of an over-the-counter THC device or alcohol, the punishment is 60 days of Disciplinary Alternative Education Placement (DAEP, also known as GAP). The possession of illegal THC on campus carries a 90 day DAEP placement and felony charges. Once again, I hope this information is helpful to you and our students in making good decisions.

### Key Dates

- November 15 School Board Meeting
- November 16 Family Impact Night
- November 18-19 Word Wrangler Festival
- November 21-25 Thanksgiving Break

Vape Pens have been marketed in many different forms that do not look like the previously popular "e-cigarettes".

