



Principal's Message

VAPING - What Everyone Needs to Know

Vaping is a topic that is being discussed today in the media, the legislature and, yes, in schools. Recently a bill was passed in the Maine Legislature that bans the act of vaping or possession of vaping materials in schools. The national media is frequently reporting on the rapid rise of young people participating in this practice. Some municipalities are forming zoning ordinances to keep vape shops away from schools and other gathering places for young people. Clearly an alarm is being sounded, one that all parents need to pay attention to and build a communication plan for their children.

Vaping is the act of inhaling and exhaling aerosol or vapor produced by a vape device. Because of the rise in popularity of JUUL, a specific type of vape device, many teens and young adults use the term "JUULING" (pronounced Jewelling), instead of vaping. Vape devices, known as e-cigs, e-hookahs, mods, vape pens, tank systems and Juuls, contain four basic components: a cartridge or tank to hold e-liquid (or e-juice / vape sauce), a heating element known as an atomizer, a battery and a mouthpiece to inhale. A sensor detects when a person is trying to inhale and this triggers the battery to supply electricity to the coil of wire or atomizer. The heat given off turns the e-liquid into vapor and this is what users inhale. While the output of the device looks like smoke it is actually vapor. Vape devices can look like cigarettes, cigars or pipes while others can resemble USB sticks and other objects like a guitar pick. Because of these varied designs, it has become very challenging to recognize the device for what it actually is. Although many substances can be caped, the three most commonly used by young people today are: flavored e-liquids, flavored e-liquids with nicotine and marijuana.

The fundamental understanding for parents must be that vaping, in any form, is not a safe practice for young people to be engaging in and can lead to the creation of an addiction (nicotine) or other health issues. Kendra Anderson, WHES School Nurse, has put together an excellent informational board that further reveals the difficulties and dangers of vaping. Kendra's information will be displayed outside the WHES Main Office and all parents are encouraged to check it out. Should you have questions, please feel free to communicate with Kendra.

Office: Please remember to send your child to school with a note if they are going to a different destination on the bus after school. It helps to avoid last minute phone calls to the school, which can make dismissal very chaotic. We appreciate the advance notice and thank you for not calling with these changes after 2:00 p.m.

SAVE THE DATE!
2019 Parent BBQ & Awards Assembly
Friday, June 14th
-More Information Coming Soon-

Flocking for Food: The flock will be on the move to a new destination this week!!! I appreciate everyone who has participated in this project for the food pantry. Thank you for everyone's patience in regards to moving the flock in a timely manner. The weather has really been tough for our flocking technicians but please know we are trying to move the flock within 3 days of receipt of paperwork. Thanks again everyone!!!

Health: Watch for letters coming home (4th and 6th grade) in order to be ready for next year!!

Kitchen: There is now an easier way to pay your students lunch bill online! Please go to our school website, under parents is "My School Bucks" and sign up there! Just as a reminder when sending money in for lunch accounts, please be sure to label it with the name of your student(s) and the amount(s) to be deposited into their account. We also encourage everyone to fill out the Free and Reduced Lunch form. It is open to everyone! If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Kara Waller or Amanda Lincoln in the kitchen.

Click below to check out the Whitefield School Collaborative Problem-Solving Project!

<http://www.svsu.org/o/whes/page/whitefield-collaborative-problem-solving-project>

Grades Pre K- 1

Pre K: Wow, May came very quickly! Read with Me is next week. We will be reading When Spring Comes on May 9th, with a fun project at the end. Please join us since this will be the last one. A few lessons this week included measuring our bodies with cubes, cloud painting, and treasures in the sand from the story Puddle Pail. The children have been so excited learning about Shadows and Reflections. They have learned new poems and stories that reflect back to this unit. Have a wonderful weekend! It looks like Saturday might be a nice day.

Beck: The K Krew checked out Mrs. Richards' Ant Farm! We had lots of questions. We are meeting with our 8th grade Book Buddies on Friday! Yippee! It's been quite a few weeks since we have gotten together. NWEA testing starts next week. Kindergartners will be taking a math test and a reading test on the laptops. They will use headphones to listen to the directions. Please send HEALTHY snacks to school.

Lamothe: We have been celebrating the beginning of May by learning about different parts of a flower. We have talked about sunflowers, tulips, daffodils and daisies. We learned about the seed, flower, leaves and stem. The children made pictures of their favorite flower which are on display in the hallway. We have daffodils that we made on our windows and door. It definitely looks like spring in our classroom! The students have been writing in their May Journals. Our goal for the last few weeks is to write at least 3 well written, complete sentences using correct punctuation. In Math we have been working with geometric shapes. We have been using pattern blocks to create ocean creatures and jungle animals, which helps with our understanding. This was showcased at our Celebration of Learning. All first graders will be doing the spring NWEA test next Monday and Wednesday- the week after next.. Please be sure your child is well rested and has a good breakfast on those days. It contributes to them being able to focus and be at their best.

A special Thank You to the Whitefields Lion's Club for your generous donation of needed classroom supplies. It is truly appreciated. Happy Birthday to Daniel B.

Grades 2-4

Brewer: A big thank you to Schuyler's family for the HUGE donation of paper towels and snacks. It is greatly appreciated. We have finished up our Poetry unit and we will circle back around to Personal Narratives. In math we are discussing Polygons and continuing our work with fractions. Another big thank you to the Lion's Club for their generous donation of school supplies and the PTA for their donation to the classroom as well.

Northrup: It was nice seeing so many familiar faces at the Celebration of Learning. I am sending home a math game packet from Thursday evening for those of you that were unable to attend. Please take a few minutes and play these math games with your child. It's a fun and educational way for your child to practice his/her facts. A BIG thank you to the Whitefield Lions Club for their generous donation baskets of classroom supplies to the Pre-K through grade 4 classrooms. Student of the Week- Jacob

Trask: Thank you to the families who came to the Celebration of learning last night!

PBIS News- May has finally arrived, however the weather continues to be cold and dreary, but here inside Whitefield there is a lot to be excited about. This week was the first week that we are having first and second graders use their earned Wildcat Cards as currency to buy items from the PBIS store, so if your child comes home with a new toy, poster, or school item please congratulate them on all of their hard work at earning those Wildcat Cards. The PBIS store accepts donations as well, if you have items that you feel would be appropriate for students to earn such as pens, pencils, coloring books erasers, small toys, hand fidgets, posters, bracelets, necklaces, the list could go on and on. Thank you again for continuous support of PBIS systems.

Middle School News

Norris: Grade 5 is putting the finishing touches on their class book titled Protect Our Species - Earth Day 2019. Each student chose an endangered species and has an accompanying video and image selected from the internet. The videos were displayed on Thursday evening as we shared information on our topics. Now we are emailing our book pages to the publisher for our print date of May 7th. This has been an exciting project. We also have welcomed **Charlene Donahue** this week who told us about invasive insect species impacting our forests.

McCormick: 7th graders tried kelp this week in a bunch of different ways. They did NOT love the taste. Currently, a group of students are working on a presentation that they

Howard: Thank you to everyone who stopped in to see what students are working on in Math - Geometry. 8th is working with surface area of composite shapes. 7th grade is comparing angles and shapes for congruency and 6th grade is calculating area of trapezoids, parallelograms and triangles. Geometry is a wonderful concept of math due to the nature of visually being able to represent learning with hands-on activities. Ask your child if they see any shapes around them that they can describe. Have a wonderful weekend.

Resource News

Brann: Thank you for supporting students with their

will be giving to the scientists at Bigelow Lab on May 10th. 8th grade is getting ready to design their own mousetrap cars. They worked on testing variables on a premade car this week. 6th grade has been learning about solar and lunar eclipses, ask a 6th grader what the difference between them is.

Joslyn: This week we welcomed Miss Joslyn to the ELA classroom. She will be filling in as the ELA teacher until the end of the school year.

nightly homework. K-4 students are consistently passing in their math practice and completing their nightly reading. Grades 5-8 students utilize their study halls and may need to bring work home for completion. Please check assignment books and Jumprope to see if your child has homework.

Grady/Richards: Summer school information has gone home. Please look it over and return as soon as possible. Thank you and have a great weekend!



Special Recognition to 5th grader Quinn Conroy, who received the Spirit of America Award for his role in helping to create the newly organized Whitefield Library.



Art - Library - Music - PE

Martin: What's happening in the Art room:

6th- Finishing up their ceramic plates.

7th- Finishing up our ceramic Hobbit/fairy houses.

8th- Finishing our clay masks and beginning our Portrait unit

Abbott: 3rd grade students have working hard with a new typing program - they can login at home as well through the school website! 4th grade is working on a slideshow with facts about their Maine animal. Ask your child how it's coming along!

Please click the following link to go to the Whitefield Town Library's homepage! <https://whitefieldlibrary.org/>

Simpson: I'm so proud of all the progress our kids have made with their jump rope skills! If your child is participating in the fundraiser, please don't forget to ask friends, family and relatives to sponsor them. All of the money raised from this fundraiser goes to our PTA. Keep your eyes peeled for their scorecards coming home next week from the jumpathon! All money raised from the fundraiser is due on **May 15th**.

6th Grade Families: Don't forget that we will be at GARDINER HIGH SCHOOL all day on Tuesday for our Track & Field day.

Middle School Families: There is still time to sign up for the Fat Tire Biking after school program at Hidden Valley Nature Center. If you need a permission slip and waiver for your child, please let me know.

Adult Education

Are you thinking about returning to school to finish your High School diploma? Or are you looking for a new hobby? RSU 12 adult and community education offers programs that fit your busy schedule. Check out our website <https://somerville.coursesform.com/> or give us a call (207)549-4687

Have a great weekend!