



**CAZENOVIA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
Cazenovia, New York 13035-1098  
Website: [www.cazenoviacsd.com](http://www.cazenoviacsd.com)

Matthew Reilly  
Superintendent

(315) 655-1317  
Fax (315) 655-1375

January 25, 2018

Dear Parent(s),

As you may be aware Cazenovia, along with schools nationally, have seen a sharp increase in the dangerous new trend known as “vaping”. E-cigarettes, vape pens, or juuls are electronic devices that emit vapor that is inhaled by the user. Vaping devices use a liquid solution that delivers nicotine and comes in sweet or fruity flavors that appeal to young people. These devices are also being used to dispense crystallized marijuana (THC).

Unlike tobacco cigarettes, e-cigs or vaporizers do not have a smell, ash or butts. What is more problematic, the vapor evaporates in the air more quickly than smoke, making “sneaking” the use of a vaping device fairly easy. These devices come in all shapes and sizes, which can easily be concealed or hard to distinguish from a normal pen, a USB memory stick or any other handheld gadget. E-cigarettes are often charged in a USB drive on any computer or laptop and may go unnoticed because of their unassuming appearance.

Our concern, first and foremost, is for the health and wellness of our students. The legal age to purchase nicotine in Madison County is 18 years old and in Onondaga County the age was recently increased to 21 years old. Nicotine is highly addictive and research shows that developing brains (under the age of 25) are especially vulnerable to addiction. Moreover, addiction research shows that the younger a person is when they first use a chemical, the higher their chances are of becoming an addict as an adult. Unfortunately, we are finding that many of our students believe the myth that vaping is harmless to their health.

We are taking the vaping trend very seriously. Our code of conduct does not allow use of any nicotine product on school grounds no matter the person’s age. Students found possessing any vaping supplies and/or devices will be subject to the code of conduct. In addition to the vigorous enforcement of the code of conduct, we are working in cooperation with local law enforcement to identify persons and businesses that sell vaping supplies to our students.

We will soon be having an informational school day assembly for middle and high school students, as well as a parent information session on an upcoming evening. Dates for these informational sessions will be publicized in the coming days. Below are some links to more information about vaping and its associated health risks. Please take time to view these resources and have a frank conversation with your child about vaping and your concern for them and their health, the rules for

chemical use you enforce at home, as well as the laws around underage nicotine use and the zero tolerance policy for use at school.

We thank you in advance for being a partner with us in your child's education. We need to work together as new trends emerge that risk the health and safety of our children. Please contact your student's counselor if you need more information or support for your child.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matthew Reilly', written in a cursive style.

Matthew Reilly  
Superintendent of Schools  
Cazenovia Central School District

<https://www.sciencenewsforstudents.org/collections/vaping>

[https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/basic\\_information/e-cigarettes/index.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/basic_information/e-cigarettes/index.htm)

<https://www.bridgescouncil.org/youth-prevention-resources>