

1/29/2024

Warning over illicit vapes potentially laced with Drugs: It has been brought to the attention of Administration that vapes containing fentanyl have been found locally. Some of the local vapes that have been found, and tested, also contained MDMA (also known as "molly, ecstasy, and crystal meth"), Vyvanse (Lisdexamfetamine), and 4-ANPP (a fentanyl precursor).

What is Fentanyl?

- Fentanyl is a powerful synthetic opioid that is up to 50 times stronger than heroin and 100 times stronger than morphine. Just 2 milligrams of fentanyl, equal to 10 to15 grains of table salt, is considered a lethal dose.
- Illegally manufactured fentanyl is found in heroin, cocaine, methamphetamine and in counterfeit pills. As a result, many people may not know they're ingesting fentanyl, leading to an accidental poisoning.

While unregulated vapes are extremely dangerous, reusable vape pens are also being filled with the drugs by dealers. Once refilled, these devices are believed to be sold to young people using Snapchat and other social media apps, often using specific emojis (<u>Click Here</u> for example). These vapes often look exactly like nicotine vapes with similar labeling and branding.

Inhaling these illicit drugs through a vaping pen is extremely dangerous for anyone at any potency and can lead to severe health problems: breathing difficulties, chest pains, heart palpitations, seizures, extreme anxiety, paranoia, suicidal thoughts, psychosis, vomiting or diarrhea, and acute kidney injury. In some cases, a single dose can kill, especially if laced with fentanyl.

While we thankfully haven't experienced this first hand in our schools, it is crucial that we all, faculty, staff, parents/guardians, and students, are aware and informed of these potential dangers.

Sincerely,

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For more information please visit: <u>https://www.dea.gov/fentanylawareness</u> Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) National Helpline: 1-800-662-HELP (4357) or TTY: 1-800-487-4889. A confidential, free, 24/7, 365 days/year, information service for issues on mental or substance-use disorders.