

MR. JOSEPH PYE
Superintendent



Dorchester
School
District Two

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Dear Dorchester Two Middle and High School Families,

Welcome to the 2019-2020 school year. Dorchester School District Two is looking forward to another successful year for all students and staff. A major focus of planning for the upcoming school year is to be sure all aspects of our programs and school operations will provide all students and staff a safe and nurturing learning environment. As a part of these efforts, the school district is taking a proactive approach to the growing issue of the possession and use of vaping paraphernalia and electronic cigarettes among young people.

Last year school administrators saw an increase in the possession and use of vaping paraphernalia and electronic cigarettes by students. As you may be aware through news reports and other sources, this issue is not unique to Dorchester School District Two. District and school administrators feel it is extremely important to implement several strategies to eliminate this problem in order to ensure the health and safety of all students in our care. The possession and use of these devices is not appropriate at school under any circumstance.

The Dorchester Two Board of Trustees has recently reviewed and revised policy JICG specifically relating to this issue. The current policy in place prohibits the possession of all tobacco products, alternative nicotine products, or associated paraphernalia, to include but not limited to, vape liquids or liquid containers, other alternative tobacco products, and any other delivery method or device for prohibited substances on any district/school property or district/school-sponsored event.

As of August 19, 2019, the Dorchester Two Schools will utilize the following consequences for the possession and use of these devices at school:

- First Offense: 3 Days Out of School Suspension; Confiscation; Parent/Guardian Education Workshop Assigned
- Second Offense: 5 Days Out of School Suspension; Confiscation; Probation; the parent will be notified in writing and will be advised that the next offense will lead to a referral for expulsion
- Third Offense: Recommended for Expulsion; Confiscation

In all instances devices and smoking paraphernalia will be confiscated and destroyed. When it is determined that the device has been used to ingest an illegal or narcotic material further disciplinary and/or criminal action may ensue. Also, it is important to note that student athletes using electronic inhalants will be subject to disciplinary action as outlined in the Student Athletic Code of Conduct and SC High School League.

Please discuss this issue with your child(ren) and review the consequences for such behavior at school and school-sponsored events. Please know that the health and safety of all of the students at Dorchester Two Schools is our greatest concern and responsibility. Thank you for your attention to this matter,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joseph R. Pye". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Joseph R. Pye
Superintendent of Schools

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