

CENTER MORICHES SCHOOL DISTRICT

311 Frowein Road

CENTER MORICHES, NY 11934

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November 17, 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Over the past few months, concerns have developed regarding alarming and substantial increase in students possessing and using e-cigarettes and vaporizers. The CDC reports that e-cigarettes are now the most commonly used form of tobacco by youth in the United States, which is a major concern for all of us.

These devices are potent delivery systems for nicotine and appeal to teenagers through the use of chemicals that produce flavors such as menthol, alcohol, candy, fruit and chocolate. Additionally, e-cigarettes and other vaporizers can potentially be used as paraphernalia for administering illegal substances including THC from marijuana.

Our District's Code of Conduct already prohibits the use of e-cigarettes, "vape" devices and drug paraphernalia. We will continue to take a firm approach towards keeping our schools free of e-cigarettes and the drugs that they have the potential to deliver. As a reminder, the following consequences will be applied for students violating the Code of Conduct:

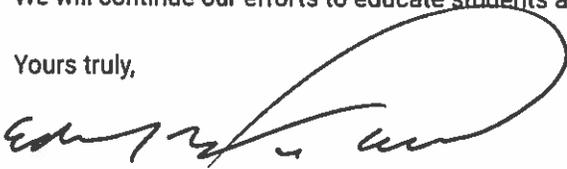
- The possession or use of an e-cigarette or vaporizer will result in **Out-of-School Suspension**
- The possession of an e-cigarette or vaporizer containing illegal drugs such as THC will result in a five day **Out-of-School Suspension** and a referral will be made to the Superintendent of Schools for a disciplinary hearing.
- The Suffolk County Police Department will be contacted for all incidents involving illegal substances.

Our goal is to keep our students safe. The Center for Disease Control has published, "Talk with Your Teen About E-Cigarettes: A Tip Sheet for Parents", which is posted on the Middle and High School websites and can be found at: https://e-cigarettes.surgeongeneral.gov/documents/SGR_ECig_ParentTipSheet_508.pdf.

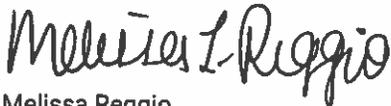
This is a great place to begin as you speak with your children about the dangers associated with these devices.

We will continue our efforts to educate students about nicotine and illegal drugs in health classes and presentations.

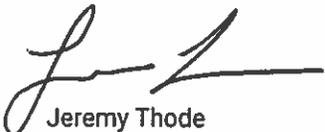
Yours truly,



Edward Casswell
Center Moriches High School
Principal



Melissa Riggio
Center Moriches Middle School
Principal



Jeremy Thode
Center Moriches High School
Associate Principal, Athletic Director, Director of Special Areas