

March 11, 2020

Dear Ketterer Charter School Students and Parents/Guardians,

At Ketterer Charter School our number one priority is the health and safety of our students, families and staff.

Over the past year, the use of e-cigarettes, or “vaping,” has skyrocketed across the country – including among our middle and high school students.

Vaping has become a serious health threat and disruptive element in our classrooms and school. For your information, there are a number of harmful chemicals and ingredients in vaping products including lead, ultra-fine particles, volatile organic compounds and cancer-causing chemicals. As a result, users can experience damage to their lungs, heart and other parts of the body.

Several public health departments across the country are warning citizens to stop using any vaping products or e-cigarette devices immediately. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has also advised people to avoid e-cigarettes and any vaping products.

Vaping has also become an enormous distraction to learning in our school. Our teachers and administrators have had to dedicate time reporting students using e-cigarettes that would otherwise be spent teaching students.

To ensure a safe and positive learning environment for all students, the use of any vaping devices or possession of any type of e-cigarette or related products or paraphernalia, will not be tolerated and will result in progressive discipline with possible charges for repeated offenses.

1st offense- warning

2nd offense- behavioral Intervention

3rd + offense- charges with local magistrate

Parents, we need your support on this important issue. We are urging you to talk with your kids about the serious health concerns with vaping. According to Juul, the manufacturer that accounts for 72 percent of the e-cigarette market, “a single Juulpod contains 40 mg of nicotine, which is similar to the nicotine yield of a pack of cigarettes.”

We appreciate the support of our parents on safeguarding our students at Ketterer Charter School. Working together, we will continue to be a positive alternative that helps all students achieve and succeed. If you have any questions or concerns about this important issue, please do not hesitate to contact us at (724) 804-7030.

Sincerely,

Ketterer Charter School Administrators

Eric Guldin- CEO

Brooke Pierce- Principal, Tara Achtziger-Assistant Principal, Nicole Myers-Assistant Principal