

# Vaping

## What Secondary School Educators Need to Know





## Outline

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- What is vaping and how does it work?
- What do vaping devices look like?
- Who is using and why?
- What are the heath risks of vaping?
- What are the laws around vaping?
- How can I promote student well-being and prevent harms from vaping?
- How does vaping connect to the curriculum?



This fact sheet provides general information about vaping and outlines important facts, associated risks, and additional resources to support educators in having informed conversations with students.

#### What is vaping and how does it work?

Vaping is the act of inhing and enhaling (puffing) vapour from a battery-operand device known as an ecigarette. E-cigarettes are also known as mods, vapes, vape pens, e-hookahs or tank systems.<sup>1</sup> A vaping Riguld or "e-juice" is headed to produce a vapour that can be inhuled through the mouth into the lungs.

#### What do vaping devices look like?

Vaping devices come in many shapes and sizes. Some are small and look like a pen or a USB drive while others are larger. A typical vaping device includes.<sup>1</sup>



The vaping liquid comes in bottles with a dropper to fill the tank or reservoir of the e-cigarette or in re-filled containers (also called pods) that are inserted into the vaping device. The vaping liquids contain a combination of chemicals, such as inop/lene glycol, vegetable glycerin, additives ind chemical flavor compounds.<sup>1</sup>

The aerosol that users inhale and exhale from e-cigarettes can expose them to potentially harmful substance. Being around someone using e-cigarettes can also expose someone to these substances. Most e-cigarettes also contain nicotine, which is a highly addictive substance found in tobacco. Cannabis can also so vaped.

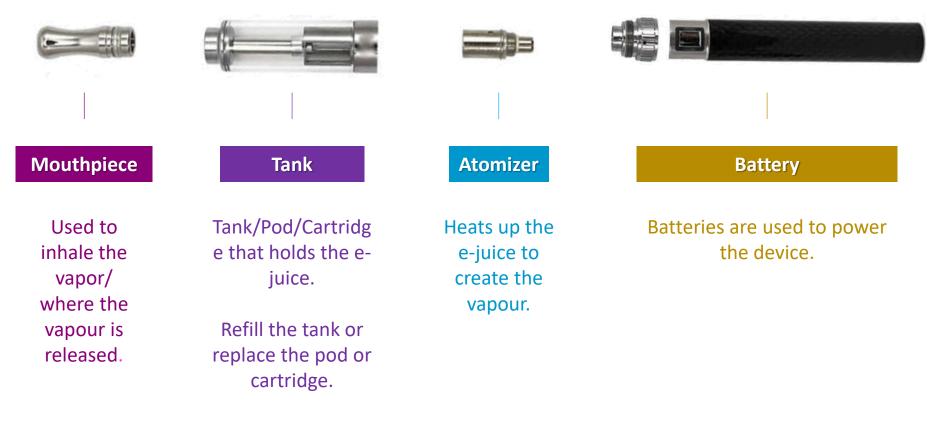
Many vaping liquids come in different flavours, such as mint, fruit, and chocolate. These flavours make ecigarettes more appealing to young people.<sup>1</sup>





## How Do Vapes Work?

Vapes may look different but they generally work the same way and have these components.





## What Do Vapes Look Like?



Vape Pens, Tank Systems, Mods [refillable e-juice]

Juul, ePen, disks [pod system]



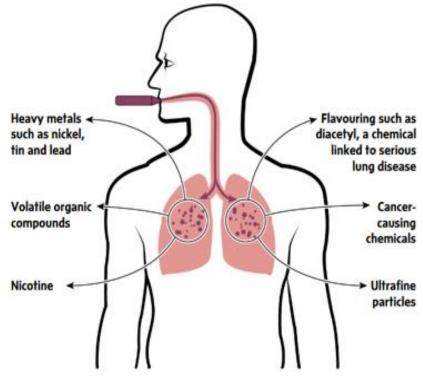
## **E-Juice/E-Liquid & Aerosol**

# E-cigarettes produce an aerosol

Not just "water vapour"

## E-Juice/E-Liquid can contain:

- Flavourings
- Cannabis
- Nicotine



MURAT YÜKSELIR / THE GLOBE AND MAIL, SOURCE: CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION



## Which Youth are Using?

- In 2019, vaping among Ontario students in grades 7 to 12 increased to 23% (This is up from 11% in 2017.)
- Rates are even higher in Eastern Ontario (almost **30%).**
- In the same population:
  - **5%** have tried tobacco cigarettes
  - 22% have tried cannabis

\*\*2019 Ontario Student Drug Use and Mental Health Survey



## Why Are Youth Using?

"It helps me enjoy a party"

"It helps me forget about my problems"

"I use it out of boredom"

"So I won't feel left out"

"It helps me relax"

"It's exciting"

"I'm curious"



## **Health Risks of Vaping**

Short Term:

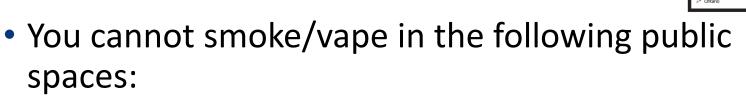
- mouth/throat irritation
- cough
- shortness of breath
- nausea

Developmental:

- addiction & dependence
- learning, memory, concentration
- reduced impulse control
- worsen symptoms of depression & anxiety
- cause behavioural problems



## Vaping and the Law in Ontario



- Public and private schools
- School grounds and al public areas within 20m of these grounds
- Children's playgrounds and all public spaces within 20 m of these playgrounds
- Grounds of community recreational facilities and all public areas within 20m of these grounds
- Publicly-owned sporting areas (not including golf courses), nearby spectator areas and public areas within 20m of these areas

### hpePublicHealth.ca

**NO SMOKING** 





For more information or FREE help to quit, call Hastings Prince Edward Public Health at 613-966-5500 ext. 600. TTL@hpeph.ca

To request this document in an alternate format, call 613-966-5500; TTY: 711 or visit www.hpepublichealth.ca





## How to Report:

- Contact the HPEPH Tobacco Talk Line
  - 613-966-5500 x 600
- Fill out an SFOA Witness Report
  - <u>https://hpepublichealth.ca/sfoa-school-incident-report/</u>

#### SMOKE FREE ONTARIO ACT WITNESS REPORT

#### Type of Offence

Smoking or vaping <u>on</u> or <u>within</u> 20m of school property, including in a vehicle - \$305
Selling, supplying or sharing tobacco or vapour products with anyone under the age of 19 - \$490
Selling tobacco or vapour products on school property - \$490

#### Description of Alleged Offence

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occurred:	
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## **Marketing and Youth**

hpePublicHealth.ca



TOUGH GUYS



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# Marketing and Youth



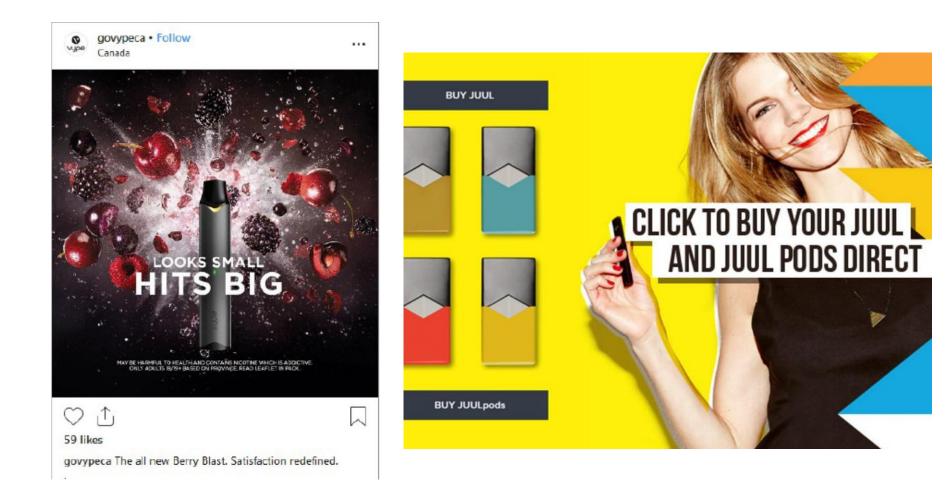
0 Calories | 50 Servings







## **Marketing and Youth**





## How to Support Student Well-Being and Prevent Harms Related to Vaping

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• Approach vaping in a knowledgable, supportive and non-judgmental way.

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• Provide multiple opportunities to learn about vaping.



- Understand students vape in response to stress and difficult feelings
  - Help students explore ways to cope



## How to Support Student Well-Being and Prevent Harms Related to Vaping



• Support students to deal with social pressures



• Help students critically examine marketing tactics used by the industry.



 Collaborate with public health to use a Healthy Schools approach.





## **Curriculum Connections**

- The Ontario Health and Physical Education Curriculum from Grade 1 Grade 12 provides diverse opportunities for students to learn about vaping:
- Elementary:
  - Making informed choices; vaping risks & health effects; refusal skills; assertiveness
- Secondary:
  - Effects of substances & behaviours on mental/physical health
  - social factors
  - role of protective and risk factors in developing resilience
  - decision making, assertiveness, refusal skills



## **Prevention Campaigns**

• Grade 7 and 8 – <u>Not an Experiment</u> – notanexperiment.ca



• Grades 9-12 – <u>Behind the Haze</u> – behindthehaze.com

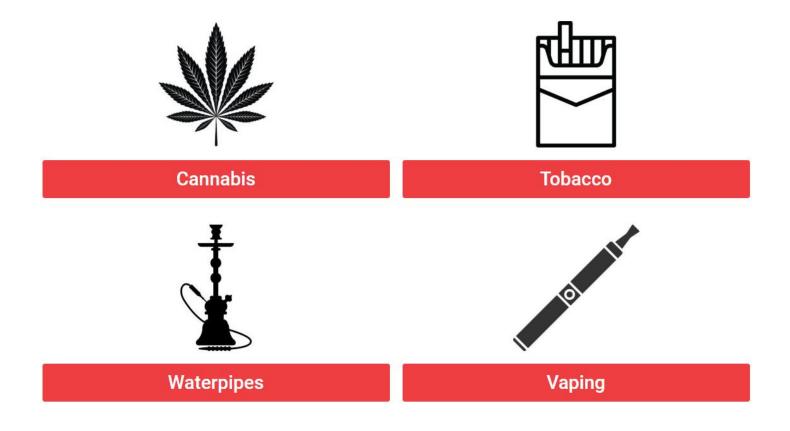


## WANT THE REAL FACTS ON VAPING?

Watch the video or scroll down to find out for yourself.



## Lung Association – "Talking About" Series





## **Public Health Support for Schools**

- Curriculum supports
  - Action guide
- Health Promotion
  - Support for school wide campaigns
- Public Health Clinics
  - Information about quitting vaping
  - Help making a quit plan
  - Quit kits and apps



## **Final Facts**

- Vaping behaviours are different across grade groups.
- Vaping is NOT harmless.
- E-cigarettes are NOT a proven effective quit smoking aid for youth.
- Vaping is linked to mental health and substance use problems.



## Supporting Students Who Want To Quit

- Kids Help Phone
  - 1-800-668-6868
  - Text CONNECT to 686868
  - <u>www.kidshelpphone.ca</u>
- Smoker's Helpline
  - Text iQuit to 123456
  - <u>www.smokershelpline.ca</u>
- Quit Coach @ Telehealth Ontario
  - 1-866-797-0007
- Quash App
  - www.quashapp.com
- HPEPH Public Health Nurses in all Secondary Schools



## Want More Information?

www.notanexperiment.ca

www.quashapp.com

www.behindthehaze.com

www.hpepublichealth.ca/vaping

<u>www.canada.ca/en/services/health/publications/hea</u> <u>lthy-living/talking-teen-vaping-tip-sheet-</u> <u>parents.html</u>