



# Alcovy High School

14567 Highway 36  
Covington, GA 30014  
Telephone: (770) 784-4995  
Fax: (770) 784-4996

Gina Clark  
Karen Gibbs  
Ron Edwards  
Thomas Lowe  
Rodney Williams  
*Assistant Principals*

Kristopher Williams, Ed.D.  
*Principal*

## VAPING

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We want to take a moment to alert you to a trend that we are seeing surface among students. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the issues of vaping as well as share with you the possible repercussions if your child engages in vaping on school property. We take this issue very seriously due to the negative health effects vaping can have on our students.

Did you know that in 2015, more than 3 million youth in middle and high school, including about 1 of every 6 high school students, used e-cigarettes in a one-month period? What is vaping? Vaping is the act of inhaling a vapor produced by an electronic vaporizer or e-cigarette. The vapor can contain nicotine and other substances. The liquids that are vaporized come in many different flavors and might even smell fruity.

Vaporizers/e-cigarettes come in all different shapes. Some common styles look like a thick pen, a stylus for an iPad, a flash drive, or a small flask with a round chimney coming off the top. The devices are very small and can easily be hidden on a person or in a backpack. There is another device called a "Juul" (pronounced jewel), which has liquid "pods" that contain even higher concentrates of nicotine. The "Juul" device looks exactly like a USB drive which is small and easily concealed. We also know that these devices can be rigged to "vape" or smoke marijuana oils and other substances in an odorless method.

Our first and foremost concern is student health and safety. Students who are using these devices are inhaling nicotine and other harmful chemicals thinking it is safe. As you know, nicotine is highly addictive and some of these unregulated products that students are purchasing at vape shops or online, contain higher levels of nicotine than cigarettes. As per our policy, any use and/or possession of tobacco, smokeless tobacco, cigars or smoking paraphernalia including lighters and e-smoking devices is prohibited on all school properties and has a consequence. In addition, use of any tobacco product within the school buildings, school facilities, during school-sponsored activities or on school grounds or school buses by any individual, including school personnel and students, is prohibited at all times. Administrators will follow the practices outlined in the student handbook. **Please see rules #10 and #11 & #13 in Student Handbook.**

Please take a moment to discuss with your child the dangers of vaping and vaping on school premises. We thank you in advance for being a partner with us in your child's education. We need to work together as new trends emerge that risk the health and safety of our children.

Regards,

*Dr. Kristopher Williams, Principal*