



**BOYERTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**MIDDLE SCHOOL WEST**

“to enable all students to succeed in a changing world”

December 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians:

The safety and security of our students and staff continues to be the top priority at our school. Unfortunately, one of the new challenges we face with students is the use of electronic cigarettes or vapor pens, commonly referred to as “vapes.” Most of the oils used in the devices contain nicotine or other illegal substances and are every bit as harmful and addictive as tobacco. Just as it does for tobacco, drugs, and alcohol, our health curriculum includes information for students about the dangers of “vaping.”

In an effort to reinforce the seriousness of vaping, we included in the student handbook this year that use or possession of an electronic cigarette carries a penalty of three days of in-school suspension. As an additional deterrent, BASH, MS East, and MS West will be implementing a new practice of testing all vapes, their contents, and confiscated vape oil for illegal substances. Confiscated items will not be returned and the cost of the testing will be charged to the student who was in possession of the contraband. The cost will be a financial obligation that the student will be required to pay, and unpaid debts will result in loss of school activity privileges. If the item tests positive for illegal substances, additional disciplinary action may be taken and the local law enforcement agency will be notified.

Thank you for your continued support and assistance in keeping our students safe and healthy.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Schmaldienst or me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stephanie L. Landis".

Stephanie L. Landis  
Principal