

# Bert Bowes Middle School

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“...students, staff and parents working and learning together in a caring community”



November 29, 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians:

## **RE: Vaping Products**

As this year progresses, we are noticing more incidents of students using vaping products in the school and on school grounds. I would like to take this opportunity to notify our families that the possession or use of these products are banned at this school.

The Federal Government's proposed Tobacco and Vaping Products Act is aimed at protecting youth from nicotine addiction and from inducement to tobacco use and vaping. Research exists showing that students experimenting with vaping are twice as likely to start smoking tobacco products. Unfortunately, students vaping in a washroom earlier this year set off a smoke detector causing a full-scale evacuation and a response by the Fort St. John Fire Department. Keeping the health and safety of our students in mind, vaping products are banned from the school.

Should a student be in possession or in use of a vaping product, the product will be confiscated and parents will be notified. A disciplinary response, up to school suspension will occur in these cases. *Chronic defiance of our policy and regulations in this area may result in the student being removed from the school and provided with an alternate means of education.* Please review this policy with your son or daughter. If you know or suspect your child has a vaping product, please ensure it is not taken to school. Please access the links below to learn more about the topic;

<http://bit.ly/2w4FDGP> (CBC news article)

<http://bit.ly/2p5W9VZ> (Science News for Students article)

<http://bit.ly/2BCCott> (Health Canada Questions and Answers)

<http://bit.ly/2zEpHwH> (Health Canada Proposals for the regulation of vaping products)

Bert Bowes Middle School promotes healthy living for all our students and appreciates your support and cooperation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Wade Hart". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Wade Hart  
Principal, Bert Bowes Middle School