

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kelle Bunch  
2245 W Pershing Rd  
Chicago, Illinois 60609 2211

Dear Superintendent Bunch,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Martin Cook  
600 E Pine St  
Le Roy, Illinois 61752 1860

Dear Superintendent Cook,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

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Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Scott Riddle  
3202 N Wisconsin Ave  
Peoria, Illinois 61603 1260

Dear Superintendent Riddle,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Donna Veile  
400 Elsie Ave  
Crest Hill, Illinois 60403 2573

Dear Superintendent Veile,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Roy Webb  
409 N Chicago St  
Elwood, Illinois 60421 9367

Dear Superintendent Webb,

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Andrea Evers  
1235 Oak St  
Winnetka, Illinois 60093 2168

Dear Superintendent Evers,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
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May 25, 2018

Superintendent Brad Misner  
1023 College St  
Henry, Illinois 61537 1074

Dear Superintendent Misner,

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
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May 25, 2018

Superintendent Brad Turner  
5800 Theodore Dr  
Plainfield, Illinois 60586 5269

Dear Superintendent Turner,

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- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Wes Olson  
2317 E Lincolnway Ste A  
Sterling, Illinois 61081 3059

Dear Superintendent Olson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Daniel Woestman  
23231 IL Highway 1  
Chrisman, Illinois 61924 7801

Dear Superintendent Woestman,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Michael Greenlee  
503 Chicago Rd  
Newark, Illinois 60541 9501

Dear Superintendent Greenlee,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Vicki Phillips  
203B Dean Ave  
Sparta, Illinois 62286 2301

Dear Superintendent Phillips,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Bruce Bauer  
PO Box 140  
Alexander, Illinois 62601 0140

Dear Superintendent Bauer,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent James Hermes  
2650 Thatcher Ave  
River Grove, Illinois 60171 1650

Dear Superintendent Hermes,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Michael Patterson  
4601 Sauk Trl  
Richton Park, Illinois 60471 1470

Dear Superintendent Patterson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Chris Dougherty  
2 Friendship Plz  
Addison, Illinois 60101 2787

Dear Superintendent Dougherty,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Ricardo Espinoza  
780 Shoreline Dr  
Aurora, Illinois 60504 6192

Dear Superintendent Espinoza,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jennifer Hamilton  
600 Miller St  
Carthage, Illinois 62321 1129

Dear Superintendent Hamilton,

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jennifer Hamilton  
340 S 11th St  
Warsaw, Illinois 62379 1431

Dear Superintendent Hamilton,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kirk Haring  
270 N 10th St  
Hamilton, Illinois 62341 1500

Dear Superintendent Haring,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Eric Lawson  
26051 W Nippersink Rd  
Ingleside, Illinois 60041 8785

Dear Superintendent Lawson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jay McCracken  
1520 N Bloomington St  
Streator, Illinois 61364 1312

Dear Superintendent McCracken,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Tim Smith  
606 W North St  
Auburn, Illinois 62615 1144

Dear Superintendent Smith,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Michelle Zeko  
350 W 154th St  
South Holland, Illinois 60473 1229

Dear Superintendent Zeko,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Mark Martin  
150 W 137th St  
Riverdale, Illinois 60827 1613

Dear Superintendent Martin,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kate Sievers  
600 S Smiley St  
O Fallon, Illinois 62269 2316

Dear Superintendent Sievers,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Mark Hansen  
2121 S Goebbert Rd  
Arlington Heights, Illinois 60005 4205

Dear Superintendent Hansen,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Timothy Schurman  
642 S East St  
Mount Carroll, Illinois 61053 1459

Dear Superintendent Schurman,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Adam Brumbaugh  
PO Box 130  
Irvington, Illinois 62848 0130

Dear Superintendent Brumbaugh,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Gary DePatis  
793 N Main St  
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137 3900

Dear Superintendent DePatis,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Ron Gilbert  
PO Box 10  
Joppa, Illinois 62953 0010

Dear Superintendent Gilbert,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Timothy Page  
501 E Lorena Ave  
Wood River, Illinois 62095 2123

Dear Superintendent Page,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Thomas Davis  
200 W South St  
Durand, Illinois 61024 9403

Dear Superintendent Davis,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Lindsey Hall  
1600 Dodge Ave  
Evanston, Illinois 60201 3449

Dear Superintendent Hall,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Donald Owen  
4411 185th St  
Country Club Hills, Illinois 60478 4501

Dear Superintendent Owen,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Victor White  
400 N Sycamore St  
Villa Grove, Illinois 61956 9771

Dear Superintendent White,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Scott Amerio  
1802 Cedar St  
Lawrenceville, Illinois 62439 2157

Dear Superintendent Amerio,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Brian Brooks  
400 S Elm St  
Centralia, Illinois 62801 3910

Dear Superintendent Brooks,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Rod Grimsley  
4175 State Route 71  
Oswego, Illinois 60543 8340

Dear Superintendent Grimsley,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Andy Larson  
2800 29th St  
Zion, Illinois 60099 3010

Dear Superintendent Larson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Drusilla Lobmaster  
1370 N Riverwoods Rd  
Lincolnshire, Illinois 60069 2402

Dear Superintendent Lobmaster,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Bonnie McArthur  
1531 Jones Point Rd  
Grayslake, Illinois 60030 3536

Dear Superintendent McArthur,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Todd Pence  
650 Academic Dr  
Algonquin, Illinois 60102 4423

Dear Superintendent Pence,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Michelle Ramage  
79 Grove St  
Prophetstown, Illinois 61277 9376

Dear Superintendent Ramage,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Barbara Thompson  
125 W Ellsworth St  
Westville, Illinois 61883 1233

Dear Superintendent Thompson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Susan Zola  
1800 Storey Ln  
Cottage Hills, Illinois 62018 1346

Dear Superintendent Zola,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jason Bauer  
201 N Miller St  
Waverly, Illinois 62692 1041

Dear Superintendent Bauer,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Gregory Fuerstenau  
21962 Akin Blacktop  
Akin, Illinois 62890 1304

Dear Superintendent Fuerstenau,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Ronald Graham  
209 N Mitchell St  
Braceville, Illinois 60407 9068

Dear Superintendent Graham,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Fred Lamkey  
1002 SW 6th St  
Aledo, Illinois 61231 2100

Dear Superintendent Lamkey,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent David Meister  
320 W Main St  
Ottawa, Illinois 61350 2825

Dear Superintendent Meister,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jill Rogers  
301 W Butternut St  
Elmwood, Illinois 61529 9454

Dear Superintendent Rogers,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kevin Ross  
3020 W Willow Knolls Dr  
Peoria, Illinois 61614 8127

Dear Superintendent Ross,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Dee Scott  
1721 Boul Ave  
Swansea, Illinois 62226 4254

Dear Superintendent Scott,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Monty Aldrich  
500 W Clover St  
Hutsonville, Illinois 62433 1017

Dear Superintendent Aldrich,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Cathy Croy  
300 E Monroe St  
Bloomington, Illinois 61701 4028

Dear Superintendent Croy,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Joel Hackney  
652 E Main St  
Cuba, Illinois 61427 5211

Dear Superintendent Hackney,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Robin Becker  
2204 Concord Arenzville Rd  
Concord, Illinois 62631 5017

Dear Superintendent Becker,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jennifer Filyaw  
524 E Schaumburg Rd  
Schaumburg, Illinois 60194 3510

Dear Superintendent Filyaw,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kevin Meyer  
14025 S Harrison Ave  
Posen, Illinois 60469 1022

Dear Superintendent Meyer,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Brad Morris  
525 E 162nd St  
South Holland, Illinois 60473 2384

Dear Superintendent Morris,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Patricia Cornell  
410 E Washington St  
Downs, Illinois 61736 9380

Dear Superintendent Cornell,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Dave Fults  
511 E Main St  
Benton, Illinois 62812 2522

Dear Superintendent Fults,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Mark Heuring  
115 High St  
Bradford, Illinois 61421 5087

Dear Superintendent Heuring,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Tami Kampwerth  
PO Box 186  
Donovan, Illinois 60931 0186

Dear Superintendent Kampwerth,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Joe Novsek  
504 E Warren St  
Bunker Hill, Illinois 62014 1102

Dear Superintendent Novsek,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Tom Siegler  
920 N Illinois St  
Belleville, Illinois 62220 4374

Dear Superintendent Siegler,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jeff Strieker  
320 Stadium Dr  
Pekin, Illinois 61554 5266

Dear Superintendent Strieker,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Mike Toeben  
PO Box 7  
Armstrong, Illinois 61812 0007

Dear Superintendent Toeben,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Lance Landeck  
105 N E St  
Monmouth, Illinois 61462 1667

Dear Superintendent Landeck,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Larry Lilly  
470 N Lake St  
Mundelein, Illinois 60060 1825

Dear Superintendent Lilly,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Tony Reeley  
1602 Dixon Rd  
Rock Falls, Illinois 61071 1913

Dear Superintendent Reeley,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Todd Vilaro  
1919 Caton Farm Rd  
Crest Hill, Illinois 60403 1700

Dear Superintendent Vilaro,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Carmen Ayala  
651 S Morgan St  
Virginia, Illinois 62691 1547

Dear Superintendent Ayala,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kimberly Boryszewski  
PO Box 230  
Bluffs, Illinois 62621 0230

Dear Superintendent Boryszewski,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Daniel Cates  
PO Box 187  
Dieterich, Illinois 62424 0187

Dear Superintendent Cates,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Edward Condon  
509 N Prairie St  
Raymond, Illinois 62560 4906

Dear Superintendent Condon,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Shelly Davis-Jones  
304 E McNair Rd  
Winnebago, Illinois 61088 9014

Dear Superintendent Davis-Jones,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Andrew DuRoss  
1475 Maple Ave  
Northbrook, Illinois 60062 5418

Dear Superintendent DuRoss,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Lea Frost  
164 S Prospect Ave  
Park Ridge, Illinois 60068 4035

Dear Superintendent Frost,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent James Gay  
9440 Kenton Ave  
Skokie, Illinois 60076 1338

Dear Superintendent Gay,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Hughes George  
5050 Madison St  
Skokie, Illinois 60077 2578

Dear Superintendent George,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Larry Hewitt  
640 Eastern Ave  
Bellwood, Illinois 60104 1878

Dear Superintendent Hewitt,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Teresa Hill  
906 Walton St  
Melrose Park, Illinois 60160 3540

Dear Superintendent Hill,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kathleen Hyland  
6633 16th St  
Berwyn, Illinois 60402 1320

Dear Superintendent Hyland,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Janice Jackson  
4225 Wolf Rd  
Western Springs, Illinois 60558 1453

Dear Superintendent Jackson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Gregory Jackson  
333 N Park Rd  
La Grange Park, Illinois 60526 1802

Dear Superintendent Jackson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kevin Jauch  
701 7th Ave  
La Grange, Illinois 60525 6705

Dear Superintendent Jauch,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent David Katzin  
100 S Brainard Ave  
La Grange, Illinois 60525 2101

Dear Superintendent Katzin,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Timothy Kilrea  
7500 W Montrose Ave  
Norridge, Illinois 60706 1153

Dear Superintendent Kilrea,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jill Kingsfield  
8201 W Fullerton Ave  
Elmwood Park, Illinois 60707 2449

Dear Superintendent Kingsfield,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent David Kroeze  
5001 S Long Ave  
Chicago, Illinois 60638 1733

Dear Superintendent Kroeze,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Christina Leahy  
8800 W 119th St  
Palos Park, Illinois 60464 1081

Dear Superintendent Leahy,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Raymond Lechner  
6500 W 95th St  
Oak Lawn, Illinois 60453 2167

Dear Superintendent Lechner,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Crystal LeRoy  
4201 W 93rd St  
Oak Lawn, Illinois 60453 1998

Dear Superintendent LeRoy,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Margaret Longo  
12809 S McVickers Ave  
Palos Heights, Illinois 60463 2351

Dear Superintendent Longo,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Michael Maguire  
12300 Greenwood Ave  
Blue Island, Illinois 60406 1558

Dear Superintendent Maguire,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Colleen Mckay  
16931 Grissom Dr  
Tinley Park, Illinois 60477 2318

Dear Superintendent Mckay,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Dale Mitchell  
191 W 155th Pl  
Harvey, Illinois 60426 3413

Dear Superintendent Mitchell,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kevin Nohelty  
13945 S Green Bay Ave  
Burnham, Illinois 60633 1671

Dear Superintendent Nohelty,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Blair Nuccio  
540 Superior Ave  
Calumet City, Illinois 60409 3452

Dear Superintendent Nuccio,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Frank Patrick  
41 E Elmwood Dr  
Chicago Heights, Illinois 60411 1104

Dear Superintendent Patrick,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Elizabeth Reynolds  
30 W 16th St  
Chicago Heights, Illinois 60411 3412

Dear Superintendent Reynolds,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Daniel Riordan  
2950 Glenwood Dyer Rd  
Lynwood, Illinois 60411 9755

Dear Superintendent Riordan,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Michael Riordan  
3753 Park Ave  
Steger, Illinois 60475 1818

Dear Superintendent Riordan,

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jesse Rodriguez  
800 Porter St  
Lemont, Illinois 60439 3777

Dear Superintendent Rodriguez,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Andrea Sala  
10701 Kilpatrick Ave  
Oak Lawn, Illinois 60453 6203

Dear Superintendent Sala,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Paul Sally  
6034 W 77th St  
Burbank, Illinois 60459 3112

Dear Superintendent Sally,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Anthony Scarsella  
20550 S Cicero Ave  
Matteson, Illinois 60443 1646

Dear Superintendent Scarsella,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Glenn Schlichting  
15233 Pulaski Rd  
Midlothian, Illinois 60445 3755

Dear Superintendent Schlichting,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent David Schuler  
999 Kedzie Ave  
Flossmoor, Illinois 60422 2248

Dear Superintendent Schuler,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Dirk Skogsberg  
540 N Rush St  
Stockton, Illinois 61085 1033

Dear Superintendent Skogsberg,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Tom Smyth  
501 E South St  
Freeport, Illinois 61032 9676

Dear Superintendent Smyth,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Edward Stange  
401 Fremont St  
Lena, Illinois 61048 8610

Dear Superintendent Stange,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kevin Suchinski  
703 S New St  
Champaign, Illinois 61820 5818

Dear Superintendent Suchinski,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Leotis Swopes  
201 N Phillips St  
Thomasboro, Illinois 61878 9784

Dear Superintendent Swopes,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Scott Thompson  
PO Box 409  
Saint Joseph, Illinois 61873 0409

Dear Superintendent Thompson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kenneth Wallace  
503 Pine St  
Marshall, Illinois 62441 1467

Dear Superintendent Wallace,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Catherine Wang  
410 W Polk Ave  
Charleston, Illinois 61920 2557

Dear Superintendent Wang,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Brian Wegley  
PO Box 280  
Neoga, Illinois 62447 0280

Dear Superintendent Wegley,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Troy Whalen  
409 S Prairie St  
Tuscola, Illinois 61953 1770

Dear Superintendent Whalen,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Creg Williams  
351 W Washington St  
Arcola, Illinois 61910 1120

Dear Superintendent Williams,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Mable Alfred  
PO Box 190  
Robinson, Illinois 62454 0189

Dear Superintendent Alfred,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent J Amadio  
1250 Judy Ave  
Bridgeport, Illinois 62417 1321

Dear Superintendent Amadio,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kevin Anderson  
1400 13th St  
Carlyle, Illinois 62231 1011

Dear Superintendent Anderson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Don Angelaccio  
699 Wesclin Rd  
Trenton, Illinois 62293 2627

Dear Superintendent Angelaccio,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Elaine Aumiller  
PO Box 267  
Bartelso, Illinois 62218 0267

Dear Superintendent Aumiller,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Carol Baker  
18004 Saint Rose Rd  
Breese, Illinois 62230 2578

Dear Superintendent Baker,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Brian Barnhart  
21075 N Hails Ln  
Texico, Illinois 62889 2932

Dear Superintendent Barnhart,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Lori Bein  
9475 N IL Highway 148  
Mount Vernon, Illinois 62864 6379

Dear Superintendent Bein,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Terri Bresnahan  
405 S Main St  
Iuka, Illinois 62849 1011

Dear Superintendent Bresnahan,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Joyce Carmine  
700 E Lincoln Ave  
Hinckley, Illinois 60520 9502

Dear Superintendent Carmine,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Louis Cavallo  
605 N 7th St  
Fairbury, Illinois 61739 1300

Dear Superintendent Cavallo,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Cafer Cengiz  
202 E Falcon Hwy  
Flanagan, Illinois 61740 7503

Dear Superintendent Cengiz,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Margaret Clauson  
39 Main St  
Saunemin, Illinois 61769 6110

Dear Superintendent Clauson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Scott Clay  
400 W Front St  
Hartsburg, Illinois 62643 7325

Dear Superintendent Clay,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Blondean Davis  
164 Euclid Ave  
Bloomington, Illinois 60108 1634

Dear Superintendent Davis,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Blondean Davis  
1860 Glen Ellyn Rd  
Glendale Heights, Illinois 60139 2261

Dear Superintendent Davis,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Dane Delli  
0S150 Winfield Rd  
Winfield, Illinois 60190 1266

Dear Superintendent Delli,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kate Donegan  
7925 Janes Ave  
Woodridge, Illinois 60517 3821

Dear Superintendent Donegan,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Anthony Edison  
1000 W Green St  
Bensenville, Illinois 60106 2008

Dear Superintendent Edison,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Paul Enderle  
5211 Center Ave  
Lisle, Illinois 60532 2306

Dear Superintendent Enderle,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Arthur Fessler  
200 N Hickory St  
Galatia, Illinois 62935 1002

Dear Superintendent Fessler,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Franzy Fleck  
2200A Illinois Ave  
Eldorado, Illinois 62930 1851

Dear Superintendent Fleck,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Beth Flores  
PO Box 130  
Allendale, Illinois 62410 0130

Dear Superintendent Flores,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Brian Ganan  
21191 Shawneetown Rd  
Thompsonville, Illinois 62890 1035

Dear Superintendent Ganan,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent James Garwood  
4626 State Highway 154  
Sesser, Illinois 62884 2277

Dear Superintendent Garwood,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Stephen Geraci  
601 N 1st St  
Vienna, Illinois 62995 1603

Dear Superintendent Geraci,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Paul Goren  
4040 N Division St  
Morris, Illinois 60450 9357

Dear Superintendent Goren,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Dawn Green  
PO Box 467  
Minooka, Illinois 60447 0467

Dear Superintendent Green,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Craig Gwaltney  
1502 E US Highway 136  
Table Grove, Illinois 61482 9612

Dear Superintendent Gwaltney,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Patricia Hahto  
35265 N IL Route 97  
London Mills, Illinois 61544 9312

Dear Superintendent Hahto,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent S Harrison-Williams  
845 Walnut St  
Bushnell, Illinois 61422 1253

Dear Superintendent Harrison-Williams,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Ty Harting  
740 Maple Ave  
Rushville, Illinois 62681 1048

Dear Superintendent Harting,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Mary Havis  
PO Box 478  
Ohio, Illinois 61349 0478

Dear Superintendent Havis,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Cecilia Heiberger  
801 S Main St  
La Moille, Illinois 61330 9499

Dear Superintendent Heiberger,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Laurie Heinz  
800 W Erie St  
Spring Valley, Illinois 61362 1761

Dear Superintendent Heinz,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Rodolfo Hernandez  
300 S West St  
Cambridge, Illinois 61238 1430

Dear Superintendent Hernandez,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Paul Hertel  
1001 N Main St  
Kewanee, Illinois 61443 1361

Dear Superintendent Hertel,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Mark Holder  
1062 Boskydell Rd  
Carbondale, Illinois 62902 7743

Dear Superintendent Holder,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent A Hollingsworth  
4033 S Illinois Ave  
Carbondale, Illinois 62903 8375

Dear Superintendent Hollingsworth,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Thomas Hurlburt  
593 Ava Rd  
Murphysboro, Illinois 62966 4267

Dear Superintendent Hurlburt,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent David Ireland  
845 E Jackson St  
Du Quoin, Illinois 62832 3871

Dear Superintendent Ireland,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Steven Isoye  
1401 Mounds Rd  
Mounds, Illinois 62964 2325

Dear Superintendent Isoye,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Janiece Jackson  
7355 Lick Creek Rd  
Buncombe, Illinois 62912 3016

Dear Superintendent Jackson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jerry Jordan  
201 S 7th St  
St Charles, Illinois 60174 2664

Dear Superintendent Jordan,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Serdar Kartal  
511 N 2nd St  
Cissna Park, Illinois 60924 9734

Dear Superintendent Kartal,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Carol Kelley  
PO Box 67  
Gilman, Illinois 60938 0067

Dear Superintendent Kelley,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jennifer Kelsall  
PO Box 190  
Crescent City, Illinois 60928 0190

Dear Superintendent Kelsall,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent William Kendall  
400 N Pine St  
Mokena, Illinois 60954 1158

Dear Superintendent Kendall,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Tarin Kendrick  
PO Box 504  
Herscher, Illinois 60941 0504

Dear Superintendent Kendrick,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jennifer Kirmes  
111 N Crosswell Ave  
Bradley, Illinois 60915 2091

Dear Superintendent Kirmes,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Trisha Kocanda  
PO Box 530  
Saint Anne, Illinois 60964 0530

Dear Superintendent Kocanda,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kristin Kopta  
5200 E Center St  
Bourbonnais, Illinois 60914 4464

Dear Superintendent Kopta,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent John Kosirog  
PO Box 546  
Hopkins Park, Illinois 60944 0546

Dear Superintendent Kosirog,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Carol Kunst  
809 E Main St  
Knoxville, Illinois 61448 1536

Dear Superintendent Kunst,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Mark Kuzniewski  
325 W Kentucky Ave  
Williamsfield, Illinois 61489 5479

Dear Superintendent Kuzniewski,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Donna Leak  
131 McKinley Ave  
Lake Villa, Illinois 60046 8986

Dear Superintendent Leak,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Thomas Livingston  
1351 Abbott Court  
Buffalo Grove, Illinois 60089 7040

Dear Superintendent Livingston,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Robert Machak  
1936 Green Bay Rd  
Highland Park, Illinois 60035 3112

Dear Superintendent Machak,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Theresa Madl  
1040 Park Ave W  
Highland Park, Illinois 60035 2257

Dear Superintendent Madl,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Von Mansfield  
285 E Grand Ave  
Fox Lake, Illinois 60020 1634

Dear Superintendent Mansfield,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Paul McDermott  
400 S Lane St  
Ransom, Illinois 60470 8087

Dear Superintendent McDermott,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Donald McKinney  
1165 Saint Vincents Ave  
La Salle, Illinois 61301 1628

Dear Superintendent McKinney,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent L Mikulich  
PO Box 20  
Seneca, Illinois 61360 0020

Dear Superintendent Mikulich,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Johnnetta Miller  
RR 71 E 3231  
Ottawa, Illinois 61350

Dear Superintendent Miller,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Valorie Moore  
PO Box 738  
Maroa, Illinois 61756 0738

Dear Superintendent Moore,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kimberly Nasshan  
250 E Sherman St  
White Hall, Illinois 62092 1359

Dear Superintendent Nasshan,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Lenell Navarre  
311 Mulberry St  
Greenfield, Illinois 62044 1325

Dear Superintendent Navarre,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent David Negron  
100 Lincoln Ave  
Jerseyville, Illinois 62052 1473

Dear Superintendent Negron,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Alexandra Nicholson  
804 W Main St  
Mount Olive, Illinois 62069 1549

Dear Superintendent Nicholson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Paul OMalley  
708 Saint Louis St  
Edwardsville, Illinois 62025 1427

Dear Superintendent OMalley,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Tom OMalley  
610 Texas Blvd  
Bethalto, Illinois 62010 1754

Dear Superintendent OMalley,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Courtney Orzel  
PO Box 9028  
Alton, Illinois 62002 9028

Dear Superintendent Orzel,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent David Palzet  
2222 Church St  
Johnsburg, Illinois 60051 5910

Dear Superintendent Palzet,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Troy Paraday  
9406 Riley Rd  
Marengo, Illinois 60152 9013

Dear Superintendent Paraday,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kimako Patterson  
300 Commerce Dr  
Crystal Lake, Illinois 60014 3503

Dear Superintendent Patterson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kim Petrasek  
815 Locust St  
Red Bud, Illinois 62278 1210

Dear Superintendent Petrasek,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Nick Polyak  
PO Box 508  
Paw Paw, Illinois 61353 0508

Dear Superintendent Polyak,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Griff Powell  
611 Western Ave  
Ashton, Illinois 61006 9445

Dear Superintendent Powell,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent James Prather  
100 1st St  
Kings, Illinois 61068 4500

Dear Superintendent Prather,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Joylynn Pruitt  
PO Box 37  
Creston, Illinois 60113 0037

Dear Superintendent Pruitt,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jan Rashid  
410 E Le Fevre Rd  
Sterling, Illinois 61081 1391

Dear Superintendent Rashid,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Michael Riggle  
212 N Lightfoot Rd  
Farmington, Illinois 61531 9648

Dear Superintendent Riggle,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kevin Russell  
206 5th St  
Hampton, Illinois 61256 9662

Dear Superintendent Russell,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Martha Ryan-Toye  
2002 Eagle Ridge Dr  
Silvis, Illinois 61282 1779

Dear Superintendent Ryan-Toye,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Philip Salemi  
1619 11th Ave  
Moline, Illinois 61265 3143

Dear Superintendent Salemi,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kyle Schumacher  
118 E Washington St  
O Fallon, Illinois 62269 1419

Dear Superintendent Schumacher,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Julie Shellberg  
1700 Jerome Ln  
Cahokia, Illinois 62206 2329

Dear Superintendent Shellberg,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kevin Skinkis  
4 Rocket Dr  
Rochester, Illinois 62563 9282

Dear Superintendent Skinkis,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Dana Smith  
201 W Mulberry St  
Chatham, Illinois 62629 1329

Dear Superintendent Smith,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jeannie Stachowiak  
208 N West Ave  
Mason City, Illinois 62664 1066

Dear Superintendent Stachowiak,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jeff Stawick  
304 E Almond Dr  
Washington, Illinois 61571 3104

Dear Superintendent Stawick,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Darryl Taylor  
815 E Chatham St  
Metamora, Illinois 61548 8745

Dear Superintendent Taylor,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Lakisha Thigpen  
103 Warrior Way  
Germantown Hills, Illinois 61548 9108

Dear Superintendent Thigpen,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Johnnie Thomas  
109 W Cruger Ave  
Eureka, Illinois 61530 1345

Dear Superintendent Thomas,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Mary Ticknor  
7915 US Route 136  
Potomac, Illinois 61865 3158

Dear Superintendent Ticknor,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Timothy Truesdale  
PO Box 350  
Bismarck, Illinois 61814 0350

Dear Superintendent Truesdale,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Patricia Viniard  
1605 S Washington St  
Lockport, Illinois 60441 4241

Dear Superintendent Viniard,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Brad Voehringer  
808 Adams St  
Lockport, Illinois 60441 3710

Dear Superintendent Voehringer,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Nicolas Wade  
25440 S Gougar Rd  
Manhattan, Illinois 60442 9511

Dear Superintendent Wade,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Nancy Wagner  
102 S Cedar Rd  
New Lenox, Illinois 60451 1702

Dear Superintendent Wagner,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Cindy Whittaker  
801 W Normantown Rd  
Romeoville, Illinois 60446 4330

Dear Superintendent Whittaker,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Eric Witherspoon  
ISU Campus Box 7000  
Normal, Illinois 61790 0001

Dear Superintendent Witherspoon,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Rita Wojtylewski  
1212 W Springfield Ave  
Urbana, Illinois 61801 2909

Dear Superintendent Wojtylewski,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Angela Zajac  
5318 135th St  
Crestwood, Illinois 60445 1504

Dear Superintendent Zajac,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Julie Kraemer  
7540 S 86th Ave  
Justice, Illinois 60458 1168

Dear Superintendent Kraemer,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Chris Long  
6135 108th St  
Chicago Ridge, Illinois 60415 2190

Dear Superintendent Long,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jeff Patchett  
3223 IL Route 176  
Crystal Lake, Illinois 60014 2145

Dear Superintendent Patchett,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Josh Quick  
696 N Colfax St  
Byron, Illinois 61010 1439

Dear Superintendent Quick,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Steven Butler  
512 W Spresser St  
Taylorville, Illinois 62568 1849

Dear Superintendent Butler,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Benjamin Johnson  
1877 W. Downer Pl  
Aurora, Illinois 60506 7302

Dear Superintendent Johnson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Richard Craven  
501 7th St  
Rockford, Illinois 61104 1242

Dear Superintendent Craven,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kathy Countryman  
522 E Main St  
Heyworth, Illinois 61745 9694

Dear Superintendent Countryman,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent William Mattingly  
2000 Lewis Ave  
North Chicago, Illinois 60064 2543

Dear Superintendent Mattingly,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Travis McGuire  
2350 E 1025th Rd  
Ottawa, Illinois 61350 9253

Dear Superintendent McGuire,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Brent ODaniell  
203 E Throp St  
Troy, Illinois 62294 1231

Dear Superintendent ODaniell,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Rick Schmitt  
PO Box 323  
Saint Libory, Illinois 62282 0323

Dear Superintendent Schmitt,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jay Streicher  
501 Washington St  
Pekin, Illinois 61554 4287

Dear Superintendent Streicher,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Chad Willis  
1950 W Roosevelt Rd  
Chicago, Illinois 60608 1245

Dear Superintendent Willis,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Susan Wilson  
21751 N 575th St  
Hume, Illinois 61932 7013

Dear Superintendent Wilson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Curt Nettles  
829 W Main St  
Carlinville, Illinois 62626 1261

Dear Superintendent Nettles,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Tom Mulligan  
2 Sage Dr  
Monticello, Illinois 61856 1813

Dear Superintendent Mulligan,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kenneth Schwengel  
410 Huntwood Rd  
Swansea, Illinois 62226 1824

Dear Superintendent Schwengel,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Michael Smith  
315 W Church St  
Pleasant Plains, Illinois 62677 9709

Dear Superintendent Smith,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Norman Tracy  
110 E Williams St  
Danville, Illinois 61832 4634

Dear Superintendent Tracy,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Craig Benes  
516 Jordan St  
Jacksonville, Illinois 62650 1997

Dear Superintendent Benes,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Daniel Bridges  
1008 N Hena St  
Greenville, Illinois 62246 1378

Dear Superintendent Bridges,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kevin Carey  
PO Box 377  
Pana, Illinois 62557 0377

Dear Superintendent Carey,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Robert Carlo  
PO Box 20  
Kincaid, Illinois 62540 0020

Dear Superintendent Carlo,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Michael Connolly  
1311 Vandalia Rd  
Hillsboro, Illinois 62049 2034

Dear Superintendent Connolly,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent John Corbett  
511 Oberle St  
Nokomis, Illinois 62075 1015

Dear Superintendent Corbett,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent John Correll  
1201 5th Ave  
Belvidere, Illinois 61008 5125

Dear Superintendent Correll,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Philip Ehrhardt  
3131 Techny Rd  
Northbrook, Illinois 60062 5857

Dear Superintendent Ehrhardt,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kerry Foderaro  
777 E Algonquin Rd  
Des Plaines, Illinois 60016 6251

Dear Superintendent Foderaro,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Scott Helton  
2915 Maple St  
Franklin Park, Illinois 60131 3031

Dear Superintendent Helton,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Victor III  
3401 Gunderson Ave  
Berwyn, Illinois 60402 3771

Dear Superintendent III,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Thomas Schneider  
15100 S 94th Ave  
Orland Park, Illinois 60462 3291

Dear Superintendent Schneider,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent William Shields  
15 School St  
Chadwick, Illinois 61014 9371

Dear Superintendent Shields,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent James Stelter  
201 S Orange St  
Orangeville, Illinois 61060 9720

Dear Superintendent Stelter,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Victoria Tabbert  
400 E Wabash Ave  
Rantoul, Illinois 61866 3013

Dear Superintendent Tabbert,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Tim Arnold  
777 Memorial Dr  
Breese, Illinois 62230 1376

Dear Superintendent Arnold,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jon Bartelt  
PO Box 189  
Opdyke, Illinois 62872 0189

Dear Superintendent Bartelt,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Patrick Broncato  
1300 Hawthorn Rd  
Salem, Illinois 62881 1001

Dear Superintendent Broncato,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent John Butts  
980 Park Ave  
Genoa, Illinois 60135 1423

Dear Superintendent Butts,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kari Cremascoli  
300 S Harrison St  
Colfax, Illinois 61728 9216

Dear Superintendent Cremascoli,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Douglas Domeracki  
8502 Bailey Rd  
Darien, Illinois 60561 5333

Dear Superintendent Domeracki,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Keith Filipiak  
40 S Main St  
Harrisburg, Illinois 62946 1638

Dear Superintendent Filipiak,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Paul Gordon  
8820 Scott School Rd  
Morris, Illinois 60450 8425

Dear Superintendent Gordon,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Charles Johns  
335 W Wilson St  
Batavia, Illinois 60510 1948

Dear Superintendent Johns,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Melissa Kaczowski  
405 S Gladstone Ave  
Aurora, Illinois 60506 5309

Dear Superintendent Kaczowski,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent R Langton  
500 North Ave  
Winthrop Harbor, Illinois 60096 1186

Dear Superintendent Langton,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent David Larson  
24226 W Beach Grove Rd  
Antioch, Illinois 60002 2234

Dear Superintendent Larson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Bruce Law  
964 Spafford St  
Antioch, Illinois 60002 1459

Dear Superintendent Law,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent David Moyer  
201 S Champaign St  
Bement, Illinois 61813 1512

Dear Superintendent Moyer,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Sean Nugent  
PO Box 728  
Brighton, Illinois 62012 0728

Dear Superintendent Nugent,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent James Ongtengco  
3200 Maryville Rd  
Granite City, Illinois 62040 5144

Dear Superintendent Ongtengco,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jerry OShea  
210 E Saint Louis Ave  
East Alton, Illinois 62024 1455

Dear Superintendent OShea,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Anthony Palmisano  
403 Orchard St  
Fox River Grove, Illinois 60021 1145

Dear Superintendent Palmisano,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Lynn Panega  
1011 N Green St  
McHenry, Illinois 60050 5720

Dear Superintendent Panega,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Matt Rich  
6018 W Lancaster Rd  
Bartonville, Illinois 61607 2117

Dear Superintendent Rich,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jeffrey Schuler  
125 Diamond Ct  
Shiloh, Illinois 62269 3617

Dear Superintendent Schuler,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Theodore Stec  
1301 Eagle Ave  
Washington, Illinois 61571 1111

Dear Superintendent Stec,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Karen Sullivan  
1401 E Washington St  
East Peoria, Illinois 61611 2863

Dear Superintendent Sullivan,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Emily Tammaru  
1050 S 4th Ave Ste 200  
Morton, Illinois 61550 2502

Dear Superintendent Tammaru,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Henry Thiele  
PO Box 320  
Roanoke, Illinois 61561 0320

Dear Superintendent Thiele,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Heidi Wennstrom  
1323 E 7th St  
Lockport, Illinois 60441 3823

Dear Superintendent Wennstrom,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Don White  
1801 E Lincoln Hwy  
New Lenox, Illinois 60451 3801

Dear Superintendent White,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent James Acklin  
404 W State St # 1  
Payson, Illinois 62360 1041

Dear Superintendent Acklin,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kenton Hall  
7 Happ Rd  
Northfield, Illinois 60093 3411

Dear Superintendent Hall,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent John Hasten  
6101 Ruby St  
Rosemont, Illinois 60018 4450

Dear Superintendent Hasten,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Danette Young  
725 N Main St  
Sullivan, Illinois 61951 1540

Dear Superintendent Young,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Lorraine Bailey  
PO Box 104  
Albers, Illinois 62215 0104

Dear Superintendent Bailey,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Lorraine Bailey  
7740 Old US Highway 50  
Breese, Illinois 62230 3822

Dear Superintendent Bailey,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jeremy Larson  
18550 W Millburn Rd  
Old Mill Creek, Illinois 60083 9248

Dear Superintendent Larson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent David Cowger  
8605 N 2nd St  
Machesney Park, Illinois 61115 2003

Dear Superintendent Cowger,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Mark Doan  
700 N Schoenbeck Rd  
Prospect Heights, Illinois 60070 1231

Dear Superintendent Doan,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Scott Cameron  
PO Box 428  
Kirkland, Illinois 60146 0428

Dear Superintendent Cameron,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent William Fritcher  
PO Box 399  
Norris City, Illinois 62869 0399

Dear Superintendent Fritcher,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jeffrey Fritchtnitch  
211 W Robinson St  
Carmi, Illinois 62821 1640

Dear Superintendent Fritchtnitch,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Cary Jackson  
413 N Appleknocker St  
Cobden, Illinois 62920 2121

Dear Superintendent Jackson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jennifer Garrison  
9401 Waukegan Rd  
Morton Grove, Illinois 60053 1353

Dear Superintendent Garrison,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Julie Healy  
999 N Strong Ave  
Spring Valley, Illinois 61362 1238

Dear Superintendent Healy,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Melissa Ritter  
PO Box 380  
Brimfield, Illinois 61517 0380

Dear Superintendent Ritter,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Michael Shackelford  
7401 Westchester Dr  
Belleville, Illinois 62223 2635

Dear Superintendent Shackelford,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jeremy Darnell  
700 E Granville Ave  
Roselle, Illinois 60172 1406

Dear Superintendent Darnell,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Clifford McClure  
297 N 33rd Rd  
La Salle, Illinois 61301 9728

Dear Superintendent McClure,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Robert Donkin  
1900 E Kensington Rd  
Mt Prospect, Illinois 60056 1924

Dear Superintendent Donkin,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jason Henry  
8931 Fullerton Ave  
River Grove, Illinois 60171 1810

Dear Superintendent Henry,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Stephen Smith  
210 Main St  
Scales Mound, Illinois 61075 9393

Dear Superintendent Smith,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kelly Clark  
PO Box 117  
Graymont, Illinois 61743 0117

Dear Superintendent Clark,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Chris Grant  
1000 Union St  
Morris, Illinois 60450 1234

Dear Superintendent Grant,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Quent Hamilton  
15501 E Avenue L  
Lewistown, Illinois 61542 9454

Dear Superintendent Hamilton,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kristin Ing  
600 E Water St  
Pinckneyville, Illinois 62274 1472

Dear Superintendent Ing,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Aaron Mattox  
310 James St  
Barrington, Illinois 60010 3329

Dear Superintendent Mattox,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent E Towers  
12190 US Route 150  
Oakwood, Illinois 61858 6174

Dear Superintendent Towers,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Christopher Janssen  
4100 Joliet Ave  
Lyons, Illinois 60534 1513

Dear Superintendent Janssen,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kyle Reynolds  
19266 Burnham Ave  
Lansing, Illinois 60438 3822

Dear Superintendent Reynolds,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Rolf Sivertsen  
1206 Franklin St  
Galena, Illinois 61036 1317

Dear Superintendent Sivertsen,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Don Willett  
301 E Columbia St  
Arthur, Illinois 61911 1403

Dear Superintendent Willett,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jeanne Davis  
1560 Bloomingdale Rd  
Glendale Heights, Illinois 60139 2734

Dear Superintendent Davis,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Angela Simmons  
501 Warrior Way  
Athens, Illinois 62613 9473

Dear Superintendent Simmons,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Lucinda Schmitt  
1 E Marissa St  
Marissa, Illinois 62257 1185

Dear Superintendent Schmitt,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kerry Cox  
PO Box 99  
Shirland, Illinois 61079 0099

Dear Superintendent Cox,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kevin Bowman  
901 6th St  
Bluford, Illinois 62814 1418

Dear Superintendent Bowman,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Mark Scott  
105 W A St  
Belleville, Illinois 62220 1326

Dear Superintendent Scott,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Patrick Halloran  
1177 S Dee Rd  
Park Ridge, Illinois 60068 4379

Dear Superintendent Halloran,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kristopher Monn  
292 Torrence Ave  
Calumet City, Illinois 60409 1941

Dear Superintendent Monn,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kent Bugg  
1300 S Mill St  
Nashville, Illinois 62263 2083

Dear Superintendent Bugg,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Cindy Christensen  
801 S Franklin St  
Dwight, Illinois 60420 1339

Dear Superintendent Christensen,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Nancy Dillow  
1 S Cass Ave Ste 202  
Westmont, Illinois 60559 1893

Dear Superintendent Dillow,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Shannon Dudek  
22W600 Butterfield Rd  
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137 6901

Dear Superintendent Dudek,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Al Gegenheimer  
PO Box 427  
Vienna, Illinois 62995 0427

Dear Superintendent Gegenheimer,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Ron Harris  
404 W Main St  
La Harpe, Illinois 61450 9280

Dear Superintendent Harris,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kenneth Lee  
3706 Florida Ave  
Gurnee, Illinois 60031 5527

Dear Superintendent Lee,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Michael Perrott  
227 W Judd St  
Woodstock, Illinois 60098 3126

Dear Superintendent Perrott,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Michael Perrott  
300 S Cedar Bluff Dr  
Valmeyer, Illinois 62295 3133

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kathy Perry  
5 Veterans Pkwy  
Columbia, Illinois 62236 1147

Dear Superintendent Perry,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jeff Fetcho  
7071 US 45 S  
Carrier Mills, Illinois 62917 1230

Dear Superintendent Fetcho,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Ryan Olson  
6202 Vollmer Rd  
Matteson, Illinois 60443 1058

Dear Superintendent Olson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kent Young  
PO Box 97  
Bethany, Illinois 61914 0097

Dear Superintendent Young,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Todd Fox  
1804 County Road 445 N  
Fairfield, Illinois 62837 2973

Dear Superintendent Fox,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Bob Gound  
500 E Main St  
Gardner, Illinois 60424 6316

Dear Superintendent Gound,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Vicki Hardy  
921 Creamery Hill Rd  
Dallas City, Illinois 62330 1216

Dear Superintendent Hardy,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Ryan Olson  
400 Broadway  
Highland, Illinois 62249 2024

Dear Superintendent Olson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kim Schilson  
421 W Harnett St  
Mascoutah, Illinois 62258 1362

Dear Superintendent Schilson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Joseph Yurko  
936 W Michigan Ave  
Jacksonville, Illinois 62650 3113

Dear Superintendent Yurko,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Richard Morgan  
430 W North St  
Warrensburg, Illinois 62573 2001

Dear Superintendent Morgan,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Paula Markey  
3901 21st St  
Zion, Illinois 60099 1476

Dear Superintendent Markey,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Joe Blessman  
401 McDonough St  
Barry, Illinois 62312 1031

Dear Superintendent Blessman,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Carl Johnson  
201 N Scoville Ave  
Oak Park, Illinois 60302 2264

Dear Superintendent Johnson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Shane Kazubowski  
160 Ridgewood Rd  
Riverside, Illinois 60546 2408

Dear Superintendent Kazubowski,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Thomas Akers  
105 N College St  
Assumption, Illinois 62510 1032

Dear Superintendent Akers,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Shannon Bumann  
42 W Madison St 2nd Flr  
Chicago, Illinois 60602 4413

Dear Superintendent Bumann,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Scott Kuffel  
1514 US Route 34  
Biggsville, Illinois 61418 5012

Dear Superintendent Kuffel,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Matt Nordstrom  
510 W Elm St  
Gillespie, Illinois 62033 1167

Dear Superintendent Nordstrom,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Doug ORiley  
201 W Clay St  
Collinsville, Illinois 62234 3219

Dear Superintendent ORiley,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Chris Sullens  
115 Bondurant St  
Washington, Illinois 61571 2448

Dear Superintendent Sullens,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Linda Dvorak  
525 Sunset Ridge Rd  
Northfield, Illinois 60093 1025

Dear Superintendent Dvorak,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Dale Hastings  
5200 N Cumberland Ave  
Norridge, Illinois 60706 1499

Dear Superintendent Hastings,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Daniel Hylbert  
5110 W 24th St  
Cicero, Illinois 60804 2948

Dear Superintendent Hylbert,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jeffrey Alstadt  
609 S Lafayette St  
Newton, Illinois 62448 1317

Dear Superintendent Alstadt,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent James Bunting  
2456 N Mango Ave  
Chicago, Illinois 60639 2313

Dear Superintendent Bunting,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Tonya Evans  
361 W Main St # 100  
Albion, Illinois 62806 1011

Dear Superintendent Evans,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Stephen Westrick  
212 W Wilson St  
Peotone, Illinois 60468 9205

Dear Superintendent Westrick,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Nathaniel Wilson  
310 S Front St  
Kansas, Illinois 61933 6205

Dear Superintendent Wilson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Christopher Grode  
402 N Jefferson St  
Astoria, Illinois 61501 8670

Dear Superintendent Grode,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Belinda Hill  
4201 Sycamore St  
Cairo, Illinois 62914 1047

Dear Superintendent Hill,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Lori James-Gross  
309 Cook Ave  
Jonesboro, Illinois 62952 1118

Dear Superintendent James-Gross,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Larry Lovel  
2165 Telegraph Rd  
Bannockburn, Illinois 60015 1531

Dear Superintendent Lovel,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Justin Miller  
946 N 33rd Rd  
Utica, Illinois 61373 9622

Dear Superintendent Miller,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Stephen Murphy  
101 Calhoun Ave  
Hardin, Illinois 62047 0387

Dear Superintendent Murphy,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kevin Spain  
1900 W Monroe St  
Springfield, Illinois 62704 1531

Dear Superintendent Spain,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Andrew Johnson  
417 5th St  
Aurora, Illinois 60505 4700

Dear Superintendent Johnson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Craig Kujawa  
7600 Central Ave  
Burbank, Illinois 60459 1308

Dear Superintendent Kujawa,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Mark Miller  
3015 W 163rd St  
Markham, Illinois 60428 5626

Dear Superintendent Miller,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Ryan Robinson  
100 W 10th St  
Chicago Heights, Illinois 60411 2002

Dear Superintendent Robinson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent John Ashby  
350 S Hull St  
Aviston, Illinois 62216 3407

Dear Superintendent Ashby,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Brian Brink  
3185 Selmaville Rd  
Salem, Illinois 62881 6603

Dear Superintendent Brink,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Erik Estill  
162 S York St  
Elmhurst, Illinois 60126 3417

Dear Superintendent Estill,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Marilyn Holt  
330 S Giant City Rd  
Carbondale, Illinois 62902 5042

Dear Superintendent Holt,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Gina Ilbery  
301 W Mulberry St  
Pinckneyville, Illinois 62274 1370

Dear Superintendent Ilbery,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Sandra Kabat  
405 S Gladstone Ave  
Aurora, Illinois 60506 5309

Dear Superintendent Kabat,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent David Larkin  
11315 W Wadsworth Rd  
Beach Park, Illinois 60099 3359

Dear Superintendent Larkin,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Aletta Lawrence  
26177 W Grass Lake Rd  
Antioch, Illinois 60002 9613

Dear Superintendent Lawrence,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Stuart Parks  
2115 Crystal Lake Rd  
Cary, Illinois 60013 1426

Dear Superintendent Parks,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Ellie Rush  
5613 W Tuscarora Rd  
Peoria, Illinois 61607 9564

Dear Superintendent Rush,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Mark Zahm  
8701 Menard Ave  
Morton Grove, Illinois 60053 3052

Dear Superintendent Zahm,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Brad Tuttle  
15733 S Bell Rd  
Homer Glen, Illinois 60491 8404

Dear Superintendent Tuttle,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent William Caron  
438 E State Highway 33  
Beecher City, Illinois 62414 2219

Dear Superintendent Caron,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Shawn Teske  
PO Box 130  
Ludlow, Illinois 60949 0130

Dear Superintendent Teske,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Bradley Albrecht  
444 S Locust St  
Flora, Illinois 62839 2119

Dear Superintendent Albrecht,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent David Gilliland  
PO Box 147  
Johnston City, Illinois 62951 0147

Dear Superintendent Gilliland,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Greg Herbst  
224 Morgan Rd  
Galva, Illinois 61434 1090

Dear Superintendent Herbst,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Tori Lindeman  
400 S Old Rand Rd  
Lake Zurich, Illinois 60047 2459

Dear Superintendent Lindeman,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Joshua Stafford  
400 Campus Dr  
Dakota, Illinois 61018 9803

Dear Superintendent Stafford,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Greg Frehner  
PO Box 235  
Cisne, Illinois 62823 0235

Dear Superintendent Frehner,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Joe Nighswander  
801 N Deneen St  
Staunton, Illinois 62088 1017

Dear Superintendent Nighswander,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kimberly Shoemaker  
1005 State St  
East Saint Louis, Illinois 62201 1907

Dear Superintendent Shoemaker,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Vicki Tripp  
PO Box 350  
Bismarck, Illinois 61814 0350

Dear Superintendent Tripp,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Steve Webb  
300 Caterpillar Dr  
Joliet, Illinois 60436 1047

Dear Superintendent Webb,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kent Mutchler  
18205 Aberdeen St  
Homewood, Illinois 60430 2417

Dear Superintendent Mutchler,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Arin Carter  
1210 State Route 54W  
Clinton, Illinois 61727 2302

Dear Superintendent Carter,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Arin Carter  
411 N John St  
Farmer City, Illinois 61842 1159

Dear Superintendent Carter,

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jeff Craig  
1809 Hovey Ave  
Normal, Illinois 61761 4315

Dear Superintendent Craig,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Fred Heid  
PO Box 289  
Manlius, Illinois 61338 0289

Dear Superintendent Heid,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Lisa Hichens  
300 W Van Buren St  
Wyoming, Illinois 61491 1172

Dear Superintendent Hichens,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Todd Leden  
565 Frederick Rd  
Grayslake, Illinois 60030 3909

Dear Superintendent Leden,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Steve Megazzini  
211 E Main St  
Ottawa, Illinois 61350 3111

Dear Superintendent Megazzini,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jason Pearson  
1 Virginia Rd  
Crystal Lake, Illinois 60014 7901

Dear Superintendent Pearson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Tony Sanders  
9624 256th St N  
Port Byron, Illinois 61275 9054

Dear Superintendent Sanders,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Todd Stirn  
601 Taylor St  
East Peoria, Illinois 61611 2685

Dear Superintendent Stirn,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Shannon Anderson  
1416 Maine St  
Quincy, Illinois 62301 4261

Dear Superintendent Anderson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Helen Boehrsen  
149 S Elm St  
Winchester, Illinois 62694 1246

Dear Superintendent Boehrsen,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Richard Decman  
999 W Dundee Rd  
Wheeling, Illinois 60090 3986

Dear Superintendent Decman,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Daniel Hollowell  
4804 Harrison St  
Hillside, Illinois 60162 1601

Dear Superintendent Hollowell,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Scott Wakeley  
307 N Sangamon Ave  
Gibson City, Illinois 60936 1255

Dear Superintendent Wakeley,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Geneva Walters  
PO Box K  
Martinsville, Illinois 62442 0166

Dear Superintendent Walters,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Scott Goselin  
598 N Elm St  
Gardner, Illinois 60424 7050

Dear Superintendent Goselin,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Lisa Harrod  
323 W Washington St  
Macomb, Illinois 61455 2118

Dear Superintendent Harrod,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent John Palan  
4213 US Highway 12  
Richmond, Illinois 60071 9732

Dear Superintendent Palan,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Debra Quain  
207 W Main St  
Stillman Valley, Illinois 61084 9037

Dear Superintendent Quain,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Charles Stegall  
303 Jackson St  
Washington, Illinois 61571 1473

Dear Superintendent Stegall,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Charles Stegall  
400 N Highland St  
Creve Coeur, Illinois 61610 3137

Dear Superintendent Stegall,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent John Thomas  
PO Box 350  
Bismarck, Illinois 61814 0350

Dear Superintendent Thomas,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Amy Smith  
4141 IL Route 84 S  
Hanover, Illinois 61041 9631

Dear Superintendent Smith,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Hector Garcia  
PO Box 38  
Zeigler, Illinois 62999 0038

Dear Superintendent Garcia,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Michael Rustman  
1275 Avenue of The Cities  
East Moline, Illinois 61244 4145

Dear Superintendent Rustman,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Timothy Shimp  
PO Box 250  
Lovejoy, Illinois 62059 0250

Dear Superintendent Shimp,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent John Sparlin  
501 S McKinley St  
Havana, Illinois 62644 1867

Dear Superintendent Sparlin,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Demetra Turman  
24920 S Sage St  
Channahon, Illinois 60410 8617

Dear Superintendent Turman,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Mike Curry  
PO Box 419  
Pecatonica, Illinois 61063 0419

Dear Superintendent Curry,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Joe Sornberger  
PO Box 9  
Pearl City, Illinois 61062 0009

Dear Superintendent Sornberger,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent John Asplund  
815 W 7th St  
Centralia, Illinois 62801 5726

Dear Superintendent Asplund,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Tim Farquer  
125 State Highway 146 W  
Golconda, Illinois 62938 4203

Dear Superintendent Farquer,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Steve Wilder  
PO Box 19429  
Springfield, Illinois 62794 9429

Dear Superintendent Wilder,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Mary Baima  
PO Box 260  
Ashland, Illinois 62612 0260

Dear Superintendent Baima,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent James Carlson  
7 S Ewing St  
Altamont, Illinois 62411 1265

Dear Superintendent Carlson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Mark Cross  
307 Salem St  
Rockton, Illinois 61072 2630

Dear Superintendent Cross,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kristine Eager  
2374 Shermer Rd  
Northbrook, Illinois 60062 6729

Dear Superintendent Eager,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Michael Pillion  
242 S Orchard Dr  
Park Forest, Illinois 60466 2041

Dear Superintendent Pillion,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Steven Wrobleski  
14040 E 1200th Rd  
Paris, Illinois 61944 8401

Dear Superintendent Wrobleski,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Michael Cushing  
222 N JF Kennedy Dr  
Addison, Illinois 60101 6602

Dear Superintendent Cushing,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Brian DeBernardi  
28W250 Saint Charles Rd  
West Chicago, Illinois 60185 1454

Dear Superintendent DeBernardi,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Brenda Donahue  
699 Plainfield Rd  
Downers Grove, Illinois 60516 5057

Dear Superintendent Donahue,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Rich Faivre  
PO Box 369  
Mc Leansboro, Illinois 62859 0369

Dear Superintendent Faivre,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent David Hermann  
501 W South St  
Annawan, Illinois 61234 9715

Dear Superintendent Hermann,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Daniel Joyce  
227 N 4th St  
Geneva, Illinois 60134 1307

Dear Superintendent Joyce,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Ryan Linnig  
1050 Ivy Hall Ln  
Buffalo Grove, Illinois 60089 1333

Dear Superintendent Linnig,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Sandra Malahy  
1350 W Hawley St  
Mundelein, Illinois 60060 1504

Dear Superintendent Malahy,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Michael Matteson  
400 N Lake St  
Grayslake, Illinois 60030 1430

Dear Superintendent Matteson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Michael Matteson  
50 Lakeview Pkwy Ste 101  
Vernon Hills, Illinois 60061 1578

Dear Superintendent Matteson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Eric Misener  
315 W 3rd St  
Lostant, Illinois 61334 9021

Dear Superintendent Misener,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jodi Moore  
455 Elm St  
Mt Zion, Illinois 62549 1314

Dear Superintendent Moore,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Lisa Parker  
9604 Illinois St  
Hebron, Illinois 60034 9618

Dear Superintendent Parker,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jeff Prusator  
PO Box 665  
Forreston, Illinois 61030 0665

Dear Superintendent Prusator,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Ted Sanders  
PO Box 369  
Sherrard, Illinois 61281 0369

Dear Superintendent Sanders,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Charles Schneider  
501 Hanft St  
New Athens, Illinois 62264 1507

Dear Superintendent Schneider,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kristen School  
408 S Belleville St  
Freeburg, Illinois 62243 1534

Dear Superintendent School,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Matthew Seaton  
2465 Amann Dr  
Belleville, Illinois 62220 3463

Dear Superintendent Seaton,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Cleve Threadgill  
502 W Mulberry St  
Georgetown, Illinois 61846 1846

Dear Superintendent Threadgill,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent S Vincent  
735 Green Garden Pl  
Lockport, Illinois 60441 4935

Dear Superintendent Vincent,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Daniel Coles  
1109 N 8th St  
Vandalia, Illinois 62471 1240

Dear Superintendent Coles,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Ellen Correll  
6248 N Boone School Rd  
Poplar Grove, Illinois 61065 8548

Dear Superintendent Correll,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Prentiss Lea  
7825 W 103rd St  
Palos Hills, Illinois 60465 1676

Dear Superintendent Lea,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jason Lind  
12150 S Hamlin Ave  
Alsip, Illinois 60803 1218

Dear Superintendent Lind,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent John Price  
21899 Torrence Ave  
Sauk Village, Illinois 60411 4489

Dear Superintendent Price,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Julie Schmidt  
9400 Southwest Hwy  
Oak Lawn, Illinois 60453 2372

Dear Superintendent Schmidt,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent W Schumacher  
500 S School Dr  
Lanark, Illinois 61046 1352

Dear Superintendent Schumacher,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Joy Swoboda  
PO Box 3039  
Urbana, Illinois 61803 3039

Dear Superintendent Swoboda,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Scott Warren  
1701 Charleston Ave  
Mattoon, Illinois 61938 3936

Dear Superintendent Warren,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jenny Wojcik  
300 E Wood St  
Paris, Illinois 61944

Dear Superintendent Wojcik,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent John Ahlgrim  
2806 E 600 North Rd  
Strasburg, Illinois 62465 4102

Dear Superintendent Ahlgrim,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Nick Brown  
859 W Missouri Ave  
Sandoval, Illinois 62882 1031

Dear Superintendent Brown,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Julie Brea  
102 S Merritt St  
Odin, Illinois 62870 1112

Dear Superintendent Brea,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Chris Clark  
600 N Morrow St  
Pontiac, Illinois 61764 1451

Dear Superintendent Clark,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Constance Collins  
2695 Woodlawn Rd  
Lincoln, Illinois 62656 9632

Dear Superintendent Collins,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Eileen Conway  
1000 Railer Way  
Lincoln, Illinois 62656 3180

Dear Superintendent Conway,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Geoff Deigan  
312 E Forest Ave  
West Chicago, Illinois 60185 3528

Dear Superintendent Deigan,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Christopher Dignam  
1860 63rd St  
Downers Grove, Illinois 60516 2471

Dear Superintendent Dignam,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Robert DiVirgilio  
7700 Clarendon Hills Rd  
Willowbrook, Illinois 60527 2426

Dear Superintendent DiVirgilio,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Heather Friziellie  
1000 Forrest St  
Benton, Illinois 62812 3337

Dear Superintendent Friziellie,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Robert Gold  
306 Virginia Ave  
Carterville, Illinois 62918 1239

Dear Superintendent Gold,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Patricia Goodwin  
550 S Carbon Hill Rd  
Coal City, Illinois 60416 1663

Dear Superintendent Goodwin,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Brian Harris  
204 S Hun St  
Colchester, Illinois 62326 1129

Dear Superintendent Harris,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Andy Henrikson  
PO Box 189  
Orion, Illinois 61273 0189

Dear Superintendent Henrikson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Scott Herrmann  
648 N Chicago St  
Geneseo, Illinois 61254 1118

Dear Superintendent Herrmann,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent John Hutton  
PO Box 175  
Tamaroa, Illinois 62888 0175

Dear Superintendent Hutton,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Lonny Lemon  
121 E Sheridan Pl  
Lake Bluff, Illinois 60044

Dear Superintendent Lemon,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Michael Lubelfeld  
517 Deerfield Rd  
Deerfield, Illinois 60015 4408

Dear Superintendent Lubelfeld,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jay Marino  
2 Stevenson Dr  
Lincolnshire, Illinois 60069 2824

Dear Superintendent Marino,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jim McKay  
541 Chartres St  
La Salle, Illinois 61301 2012

Dear Superintendent McKay,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Thomas Moline  
PO Box 440  
Argenta, Illinois 62501 0440

Dear Superintendent Moline,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kevin Myers  
950A 3rd St  
Carrollton, Illinois 62016 1506

Dear Superintendent Myers,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent William Newby  
30953 Route 111  
Palmyra, Illinois 62674 6304

Dear Superintendent Newby,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kaine Osburn  
602 Farrish St  
Madison, Illinois 62060 1567

Dear Superintendent Osburn,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent John Petzke  
609 S Sparta St  
Steeleville, Illinois 62288 2130

Dear Superintendent Petzke,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Theresa Plascencia  
1335 Franklin Grove Rd  
Dixon, Illinois 61021 9257

Dear Superintendent Plascencia,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Keely Roberts  
4201 Airport Rd  
Peoria, Illinois 61607 2113

Dear Superintendent Roberts,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent William Robertson  
8223 W Smithville Rd  
Peoria, Illinois 61607 9428

Dear Superintendent Robertson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Christine Sefcik  
PO Box 395  
Smithton, Illinois 62285 0395

Dear Superintendent Sefcik,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Bhavna Sharma-Lewis  
40 Signal Hill Pl  
Belleville, Illinois 62223 1644

Dear Superintendent Sharma-Lewis,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Michael Simeck  
147 E Palmer St  
Greenview, Illinois 62642 1000

Dear Superintendent Simeck,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Michael Simeck  
PO Box 202  
Petersburg, Illinois 62675 0202

Dear Superintendent Simeck,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jean Sophie  
600 N Cedar St  
New Berlin, Illinois 62670 4608

Dear Superintendent Sophie,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Mikkel Storaasli  
13716 5th St  
Pekin, Illinois 61554 9650

Dear Superintendent Storaasli,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Eric Twadell  
1705 Richards St  
Joliet, Illinois 60433 3127

Dear Superintendent Twadell,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Lori Wilcox  
1112 S Wabash Ave Ste 200  
Chicago, Illinois 60605 2358

Dear Superintendent Wilcox,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Lynette Zimmer  
PO Box 71  
Saint Anne, Illinois 60964 0071

Dear Superintendent Zimmer,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Doug Daugherty  
100 E Walnut St  
Roselle, Illinois 60172 2242

Dear Superintendent Daugherty,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jakie Walker  
PO Box 338  
Beecher, Illinois 60401 0338

Dear Superintendent Walker,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Stan Adcock  
505 N Park St  
Liberty, Illinois 62347 1107

Dear Superintendent Adcock,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Margo Empen  
620 Greenwood Ave  
Glencoe, Illinois 60022 1650

Dear Superintendent Empen,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Lowell Taylor  
1 Dornbush Dr  
Minonk, Illinois 61760 1363

Dear Superintendent Taylor,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jeffrey Thake  
PO Box 580  
Washburn, Illinois 61570 0580

Dear Superintendent Thake,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent John Zick  
5837 Park Dr Ste 1  
Charleston, Illinois 61920 9465

Dear Superintendent Zick,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Todd Bean  
830 Main St  
Meredosia, Illinois 62665 7357

Dear Superintendent Bean,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Brian Dukes  
1250 Sanders Rd  
Northbrook, Illinois 60062 2900

Dear Superintendent Dukes,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jerry Farris  
2921 Illinois Rd  
Wilmette, Illinois 60091 1103

Dear Superintendent Farris,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Mark Hettmansberger  
1200 N Wolf Rd  
Berkeley, Illinois 60163 1219

Dear Superintendent Hettmansberger,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jon Kilgore  
3400 Rose St  
Franklin Park, Illinois 60131 2155

Dear Superintendent Kilgore,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Geoffrey Schoonover  
9901 S Kedzie Ave  
Evergreen Park, Illinois 60805 3416

Dear Superintendent Schoonover,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jeff Bryan  
450 N Third St  
Ashley, Illinois 62808 1259

Dear Superintendent Bryan,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Paula Crane  
100 E Wall St  
Lexington, Illinois 61753 1462

Dear Superintendent Crane,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Richard Jancek  
PO Box 190  
Dongola, Illinois 62926 0190

Dear Superintendent Jancek,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Richard Jancek  
608 S Main St  
Anna, Illinois 62906 1247

Dear Superintendent Jancek,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Christopher Maier  
1625 Deep Lake Rd  
Lake Villa, Illinois 60046 5324

Dear Superintendent Maier,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Ryan McGuckin  
535 N 1981st Rd  
Tonica, Illinois 61370 9660

Dear Superintendent McGuckin,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Bailey Climer  
421 S College Ave  
Brownstown, Illinois 62418 1129

Dear Superintendent Climer,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kent Froebe  
10150 Dee Rd  
Des Plaines, Illinois 60016 1512

Dear Superintendent Froebe,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Robert Bagby  
101 E Main St  
Damiansville, Illinois 62215 1303

Dear Superintendent Bagby,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Todd Dugan  
230 Covington Dr  
Bloomington, Illinois 60108 3106

Dear Superintendent Dugan,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Todd Hamm  
210 S Adams St  
Carthage, Illinois 62321 1420

Dear Superintendent Hamm,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Laura Irwin  
4721 Shawnee College Rd  
Ullin, Illinois 62992 2201

Dear Superintendent Irwin,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Terry Wisniewski  
ISU Campus Box 7100  
Normal, Illinois 61790 0001

Dear Superintendent Wisniewski,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Damian Jones  
5801 W Cermak Rd  
Cicero, Illinois 60804 2102

Dear Superintendent Jones,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kristen Kendrick-Weikle  
8601 Roosevelt Rd  
Forest Park, Illinois 60130 2532

Dear Superintendent Kendrick-Weikle,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Robert Meadows  
14959 Pulaski Rd  
Midlothian, Illinois 60445 3436

Dear Superintendent Meadows,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent John Ahlemeyer  
720 W Main St  
Shelbyville, Illinois 62565 1334

Dear Superintendent Ahlemeyer,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Daniel Brue  
280 E Main St  
Oakdale, Illinois 62268 3116

Dear Superintendent Brue,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Paul Fregeau  
806 N 1st St  
Fairfield, Illinois 62837 2458

Dear Superintendent Fregeau,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Travis Roundcount  
500 E Glen Ave  
Peoria Heights, Illinois 61616 5106

Dear Superintendent Roundcount,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Dan Cox  
1050 E Union St  
Rockton, Illinois 61072 1628

Dear Superintendent Cox,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Mark Skertich  
311 S Water St  
Warren, Illinois 61087 9360

Dear Superintendent Skertich,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Joseph Tieman  
PO Box 70  
Gifford, Illinois 61847 0070

Dear Superintendent Tieman,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Patrick Bowman  
3601 State Route 161  
Centralia, Illinois 62801 9621

Dear Superintendent Bowman,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Victor Buehler  
750 E Gorman St  
Nashville, Illinois 62263 2007

Dear Superintendent Buehler,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jay Goble  
19189 Bailey St  
Marion, Illinois 62959 7355

Dear Superintendent Goble,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Patrick Murphy  
PO Box 128  
Brussels, Illinois 62013 0128

Dear Superintendent Murphy,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Becky Schuchman  
401 S Monroe St  
Freeburg, Illinois 62243 1535

Dear Superintendent Schuchman,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Lynda Andre  
503 NW Cross St  
Mount Sterling, Illinois 62353 1149

Dear Superintendent Andre,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Cullen Cullen  
850 Hayes Ave  
South Beloit, Illinois 61080 2119

Dear Superintendent Cullen,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Leigh Lewis  
2929 W 87th St  
Evergreen Park, Illinois 60805 1036

Dear Superintendent Lewis,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Michael Sutton  
512 W 1st St  
Homer, Illinois 61849 1215

Dear Superintendent Sutton,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Patrick Anderson  
1100 E Laurel St  
Olney, Illinois 62450 2508

Dear Superintendent Anderson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Warletta Brookins  
129 Douglas St  
Centralia, Illinois 62801 2129

Dear Superintendent Brookins,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Mark Cappel  
245 W Exchange St  
Sycamore, Illinois 60178 1495

Dear Superintendent Cappel,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Robert Green  
413 Chicago Rd  
Newark, Illinois 60541 8900

Dear Superintendent Green,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jim Greenwald  
800 S Hale St  
Plano, Illinois 60545 2000

Dear Superintendent Greenwald,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jill Griffin  
602 Center Pkwy Ste A  
Yorkville, Illinois 60560 1499

Dear Superintendent Griffin,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Debra Kreuztrager  
700 W North St  
Bradley, Illinois 60915 1013

Dear Superintendent Kreuztrager,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Messina Lenger  
300 S Waukegan Rd  
Lake Forest, Illinois 60045 2643

Dear Superintendent Lenger,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Virgil Moore  
PO Box 200  
Niantic, Illinois 62551 0200

Dear Superintendent Moore,

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent John Pearson  
4716 W Crystal Lake Rd  
McHenry, Illinois 60050 5427

Dear Superintendent Pearson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent John Consolino  
1702 N State St  
Litchfield, Illinois 62056 1114

Dear Superintendent Consolino,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jeffrey Humes  
63 Woodside Rd  
Riverside, Illinois 60546 1974

Dear Superintendent Humes,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Tim Branon  
207 N Johnson St  
Kell, Illinois 62853 1637

Dear Superintendent Branon,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Robin Brooks  
2100 E Calumet St  
Centralia, Illinois 62801 6511

Dear Superintendent Brooks,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Craig Clark  
203 N East St  
Odell, Illinois 60460 9602

Dear Superintendent Clark,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Brad Detering  
1110 S Villa Ave  
Villa Park, Illinois 60181 3326

Dear Superintendent Detering,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Leslie Foppe  
218 W 13th St  
Mount Carmel, Illinois 62863 1243

Dear Superintendent Foppe,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kerry Herdes  
301 E 5th Ave  
Woodhull, Illinois 61490 9684

Dear Superintendent Herdes,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Chuck Lane  
1905 100th St  
Monmouth, Illinois 61462 9221

Dear Superintendent Lane,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Christopher McCann  
370 N Main St  
Leland, Illinois 60531 9400

Dear Superintendent McCann,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Rob Miller  
174 Oak St  
Seneca, Illinois 61360 9500

Dear Superintendent Miller,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent H Rademacher  
444 N 8th St  
Rochelle, Illinois 61068 1460

Dear Superintendent Rademacher,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Matt Renaud  
6521 W Farmington Rd  
Peoria, Illinois 61604 4419

Dear Superintendent Renaud,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Michael Miller  
17301 Central Ave  
Oak Forest, Illinois 60452 4920

Dear Superintendent Miller,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Bill Wrenn  
1500 Sullivan Rd  
Aurora, Illinois 60506 1067

Dear Superintendent Wrenn,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent R Plater  
201 E Glenwood Dyer Rd  
Glenwood, Illinois 60425 1845

Dear Superintendent Plater,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Todd Hellrigel  
PO Box 478  
Ohio, Illinois 61349 0478

Dear Superintendent Hellrigel,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Mike Ward  
1500 S Sangamon St  
Crete, Illinois 60417 2831

Dear Superintendent Ward,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jason Hayes  
8151 W Lawrence Ave  
Norridge, Illinois 60706 3136

Dear Superintendent Hayes,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent William Biggerstaff  
1201 Bethel Rd  
Mount Vernon, Illinois 62864 7231

Dear Superintendent Biggerstaff,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Patrick Twomey  
PO Box 890  
Saint Joseph, Illinois 61873 0890

Dear Superintendent Twomey,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kathy Dinger  
7414 S Cass Ave  
Darien, Illinois 60561 3608

Dear Superintendent Dinger,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Carol Kilver  
281 W John Casey Rd  
Bourbonnais, Illinois 60914 1392

Dear Superintendent Kilver,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kathy Hinz  
424 Des Plaines Ave  
Forest Park, Illinois 60130 1718

Dear Superintendent Hinz,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent R Hoffman  
9981 Canterbury St  
Westchester, Illinois 60154 4424

Dear Superintendent Hoffman,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Steven Olson  
18300 Greenbay Ave  
Lansing, Illinois 60438 3009

Dear Superintendent Olson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent John Bute  
7823 S Ellis Ave  
Chicago, Illinois 60619 3213

Dear Superintendent Bute,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Brian Coleman  
75 1250th St  
Middletown, Illinois 62666 9734

Dear Superintendent Coleman,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Lea Damisch  
543 N Wood Dale Rd  
Wood Dale, Illinois 60191 1535

Dear Superintendent Damisch,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Debbie Ehlenburg  
15W451 91st St  
Burr Ridge, Illinois 60527 6379

Dear Superintendent Ehlenburg,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent David Engelbrecht  
203 W Hillside Rd  
Naperville, Illinois 60540 6500

Dear Superintendent Engelbrecht,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Brad Hawk  
PO Box 216  
Malden, Illinois 61337 0216

Dear Superintendent Hawk,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Daniel Johnson  
2550 Harnish Dr  
Algonquin, Illinois 60102 6870

Dear Superintendent Johnson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Tom Lind  
500 Acorn Ln  
Mundelein, Illinois 60060 4019

Dear Superintendent Lind,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Tom Lind  
28855 N Fremont Center Rd  
Mundelein, Illinois 60060 9451

Dear Superintendent Lind,

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Tim Mahaffy  
300 S Waukegan Rd  
Lake Forest, Illinois 60045 2643

Dear Superintendent Mahaffy,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Ryan McTague  
755 Bennett Ave  
Oglesby, Illinois 61348 1067

Dear Superintendent McTague,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Michael Moan  
400 E Silverspoon Ave  
Granville, Illinois 61326 9697

Dear Superintendent Moan,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Cory Tafoya  
400 W Pearl St  
Tremont, Illinois 61568 8500

Dear Superintendent Tafoya,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jerry Trickett  
701 1/2 W Vermilion St  
Catlin, Illinois 61817 9781

Dear Superintendent Trickett,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Susan Wings  
ISU Campus Box 5300  
Normal, Illinois 61790 0001

Dear Superintendent Wings,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Andrew Wise  
15601 US Highway 150  
Paris, Illinois 61944 6071

Dear Superintendent Wise,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Mark Daniel  
200 N Maple St  
Itasca, Illinois 60143 1722

Dear Superintendent Daniel,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Guy Gradert  
PO Box 459  
South Wilmington, Illinois 60474 0459

Dear Superintendent Gradert,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent David Mouser  
101 W Cerro Gordo St  
Decatur, Illinois 62523 1001

Dear Superintendent Mouser,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Barry Reilly  
101 12th Ave  
Rock Falls, Illinois 61071 1023

Dear Superintendent Reilly,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Dwight Stricklin  
PO Box 430  
South Pekin, Illinois 61564 0430

Dear Superintendent Stricklin,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Lisa Taylor  
1421 Spring Bay Rd  
East Peoria, Illinois 61611 9762

Dear Superintendent Taylor,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent R Tipsord  
615 E Orange St  
Hoopeston, Illinois 60942 1855

Dear Superintendent Tipsord,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Matthew Brue  
PO Box 27  
Okawville, Illinois 62271 0027

Dear Superintendent Brue,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Ryan Heavner  
PO Box 800  
DePue, Illinois 61322 0800

Dear Superintendent Heavner,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Scott Laird  
401 W Latimer St  
Abingdon, Illinois 61410 1227

Dear Superintendent Laird,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Scott Petrie  
714 Middle St  
Prairie Du Rocher, Illinois 62277 2136

Dear Superintendent Petrie,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Brian Charron  
PO Box 130  
Effingham, Illinois 62401 0130

Dear Superintendent Charron,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Eric Frankford  
201 E Lafayette St  
Geff, Illinois 62842 1001

Dear Superintendent Frankford,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Gina Segobiano  
211 W Mill St  
Millstadt, Illinois 62260 1147

Dear Superintendent Segobiano,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Scott Doerr  
1200 S Dunton Ave  
Arlington Heights, Illinois 60005 3111

Dear Superintendent Doerr,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Aaron Hopper  
PO Box 220  
Campbell Hill, Illinois 62916 0220

Dear Superintendent Hopper,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Debbie Poffinbarger  
PO Box 76  
Steward, Illinois 60553 0076

Dear Superintendent Poffinbarger,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent E Powell  
11 E Hawley St  
Amboy, Illinois 61310 1430

Dear Superintendent Powell,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Dustin Day  
580 N 1st Bank Dr  
Palatine, Illinois 60067 8110

Dear Superintendent Day,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Andy Stremlau  
PO Box 229  
Mahomet, Illinois 61853 0229

Dear Superintendent Stremlau,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Steve Eisenhauer  
130 W Park Ave  
Wheaton, Illinois 60189 6460

Dear Superintendent Eisenhauer,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Christiane Pennell  
816 E Grant Hwy  
Marengo, Illinois 60152 3400

Dear Superintendent Pennell,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Steve Ptacek  
100 S Union Ave  
Polo, Illinois 61064 1724

Dear Superintendent Ptacek,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Thad Walker  
20100 S Spruce Dr  
Frankfort, Illinois 60423 7099

Dear Superintendent Walker,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kent Stauder  
1010 S Washington St  
Manito, Illinois 61546 9474

Dear Superintendent Stauder,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Ted Walk  
11244 Willow Crest Ln  
Mokena, Illinois 60448 1334

Dear Superintendent Walk,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Phillip Caposey  
100 E Martin St  
Edinburg, Illinois 62531 9713

Dear Superintendent Caposey,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jason Harper  
7700 Gross Point Rd  
Skokie, Illinois 60077 2614

Dear Superintendent Harper,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent James Hammack  
2461 N State Highway 96  
Nauvoo, Illinois 62354 2200

Dear Superintendent Hammack,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Thomas Mahoney  
884 W Nippersink Rd  
Round Lake, Illinois 60073 3701

Dear Superintendent Mahoney,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Todd Prusator  
206 S 10th St  
Oregon, Illinois 61061 1711

Dear Superintendent Prusator,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Christopher Rademacher  
520 5th Ave  
Erie, Illinois 61250 9439

Dear Superintendent Rademacher,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Curtis Rheingans  
6000 S Adams St  
Bartonville, Illinois 61607 2580

Dear Superintendent Rheingans,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Joseph Schwartz  
400 Ashland Ave  
Fairview Heights, Illinois 62208 2802

Dear Superintendent Schwartz,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Sheri Smith  
810 4th St  
Pawnee, Illinois 62558 9680

Dear Superintendent Smith,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Greg Stott  
51 Yates Rd  
Marquette Heights, Illinois 61554 1152

Dear Superintendent Stott,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Matt Zilm  
PO Box 107  
Grand Chain, Illinois 62941 0107

Dear Superintendent Zilm,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Roger Alvey  
PO Box 200  
Mendon, Illinois 62351 0200

Dear Superintendent Alvey,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent David Black  
512 S Madison St  
Pittsfield, Illinois 62363 1960

Dear Superintendent Black,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Allan Gresham  
7634 E Prairie Rd  
Skokie, Illinois 60076 3758

Dear Superintendent Gresham,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Eric Heath  
9760 Soreng Ave  
Schiller Park, Illinois 60176 2105

Dear Superintendent Heath,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Allen Johnson  
7450 Wolf Rd  
Burr Ridge, Illinois 60527 7714

Dear Superintendent Johnson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Dennis Mcnamara  
15000 Laramie Ave  
Oak Forest, Illinois 60452 1325

Dear Superintendent Mcnamara,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Chad Allison  
PO Box 40  
Oblong, Illinois 62449 0040

Dear Superintendent Allison,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Loren Baele  
PO Box 400  
Germantown, Illinois 62245 0400

Dear Superintendent Baele,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Susanne Carrescia  
501 W Market St  
Somonauk, Illinois 60552 9794

Dear Superintendent Carrescia,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Zac Chatterton  
801 S Franklin St  
Dwight, Illinois 60420 1339

Dear Superintendent Chatterton,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Sharon Desmoulin-Kherat  
255 W Vermont St  
Villa Park, Illinois 60181 1943

Dear Superintendent Desmoulin-Kherat,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Timothy Dotson  
596 Crescent Blvd  
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137 4200

Dear Superintendent Dotson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Shannon Duling  
157 W Washington St  
West Chicago, Illinois 60185 2802

Dear Superintendent Duling,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Lan Eberle  
6301 Springside Ave  
Downers Grove, Illinois 60516 2488

Dear Superintendent Eberle,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Randall Merker  
201 Chicago St  
Marseilles, Illinois 61341 2058

Dear Superintendent Merker,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Darrick Reiley  
9415 Hoover Rd  
Rock Falls, Illinois 61071 9350

Dear Superintendent Reiley,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Robert Richardson  
3717 W Malone St  
Peoria, Illinois 61605 1263

Dear Superintendent Richardson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Chad Wagner  
10482 Nebraska St  
Frankfort, Illinois 60423 2235

Dear Superintendent Wagner,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Keith Hagene  
6950 N East Prairie Rd  
Lincolnwood, Illinois 60712 2520

Dear Superintendent Hagene,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Phillip Hamil  
1750 S Roselle Rd  
Palatine, Illinois 60067 7302

Dear Superintendent Hamil,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Gary Kelly  
PO Box 304  
Milford, Illinois 60953 0304

Dear Superintendent Kelly,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Tim OLeary  
300 4th St  
Venice, Illinois 62090 1015

Dear Superintendent OLeary,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jerry Travelstead  
PO Box 37  
Armstrong, Illinois 61812 0037

Dear Superintendent Travelstead,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Sheila Greenwood  
7040 Laramie Ave  
Skokie, Illinois 60077 3443

Dear Superintendent Greenwood,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Amanda Geary  
95 Tunnel Hill Rd  
Tunnel Hill, Illinois 62972 3200

Dear Superintendent Geary,

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Brett Robinson  
1300 W Sycamore St  
Chillicothe, Illinois 61523 1373

Dear Superintendent Robinson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Victor Zimmerman  
18160 W Gages Lake Rd  
Grayslake, Illinois 60030 1819

Dear Superintendent Zimmerman,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jessica Funk  
51 N Main St  
Ewing, Illinois 62836 1437

Dear Superintendent Funk,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Janet Gladu  
1700 W Cherry St  
Marion, Illinois 62959 1212

Dear Superintendent Gladu,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Paula Hawley  
307 Chestnut St  
Dalzell, Illinois 61320 9717

Dear Superintendent Hawley,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Donald Peebles  
4213 US Highway 12  
Richmond, Illinois 60071 9732

Dear Superintendent Peebles,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Charles Bleyer  
14975 E Bakerville Rd  
Mount Vernon, Illinois 62864 7100

Dear Superintendent Bleyer,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Spencer Byrd  
506 S Shabbona Rd  
Shabbona, Illinois 60550 9784

Dear Superintendent Byrd,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Doug Edwards  
590 S Medinah Rd  
Roselle, Illinois 60172 1978

Dear Superintendent Edwards,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Landon Sommer  
PO Box 1010  
Riverton, Illinois 62561 1010

Dear Superintendent Sommer,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent B Carlson  
901 S 4th St  
DeKalb, Illinois 60115 4411

Dear Superintendent Carlson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Stephanie Mulholland  
1910 W 170th St  
Hazel Crest, Illinois 60429 1363

Dear Superintendent Mulholland,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Karyn Albers  
PO Box 542  
Clay City, Illinois 62824 0542

Dear Superintendent Albers,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Larry Beattie  
21462 N Richview Ln  
Centralia, Illinois 62801 8520

Dear Superintendent Beattie,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Brian Pasero  
6809 McCullom Lake Rd  
Wonder Lake, Illinois 60097 9546

Dear Superintendent Pasero,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Gabrielle Schwemmer  
10110 Old Lincoln Trl  
Fairview Heights, Illinois 62208 2422

Dear Superintendent Schwemmer,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jonathan Tallman  
907 Locust St  
Delavan, Illinois 61734 9327

Dear Superintendent Tallman,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Larry Bussard  
4930 S Cottage Grove Ave  
Chicago, Illinois 60615 2616

Dear Superintendent Bussard,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kristin Humphries  
260 Madison St  
Oak Park, Illinois 60302 4112

Dear Superintendent Humphries,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jay Morrow  
16001 Lincoln Ave  
Harvey, Illinois 60426 4916

Dear Superintendent Morrow,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Alan Boucher  
300 N Central St  
Woodlawn, Illinois 62898 1136

Dear Superintendent Boucher,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Ronald Jacobs  
301 S Green St  
Anna, Illinois 62906 1126

Dear Superintendent Jacobs,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Lanty McGuire  
400 W Main St  
Grand Ridge, Illinois 61325 9687

Dear Superintendent McGuire,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Scott McKissick  
1800 Church St  
Peru, Illinois 61354 1615

Dear Superintendent McKissick,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Perry Miller  
1463 N 33rd Rd  
Ottawa, Illinois 61350 9622

Dear Superintendent Miller,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Michael Oberhaus  
401 Chaffer Ave  
Roxana, Illinois 62084 1125

Dear Superintendent Oberhaus,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Andy Richmond  
5137 W Cisna Rd  
Bartonville, Illinois 61607 1434

Dear Superintendent Richmond,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Terri Vandewiele  
420 N Raynor Ave  
Joliet, Illinois 60435 6065

Dear Superintendent Vandewiele,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
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While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Darcy Benway  
PO Box 277  
Pleasant Hill, Illinois 62366 0277

Dear Superintendent Benway,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Peggy Burke  
PO Box 13  
Morrisonville, Illinois 62546 0013

Dear Superintendent Burke,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kevin Cogdill  
1200 N Walnut St  
Saint Elmo, Illinois 62458 1368

Dear Superintendent Cogdill,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Ronald Ferrell  
542 Abbotsford Rd  
Kenilworth, Illinois 60043 1161

Dear Superintendent Ferrell,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Craig Fiegel  
615 Locust Rd  
Wilmette, Illinois 60091 2237

Dear Superintendent Fiegel,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jonathan Green  
6901 W Oakton St  
Niles, Illinois 60714 3024

Dear Superintendent Green,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Carrie Hruby  
3724 Prairie Ave  
Brookfield, Illinois 60513 1612

Dear Superintendent Hruby,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Matthew Klosterman  
6021 S 74th Ave  
Summit, Illinois 60501 1500

Dear Superintendent Klosterman,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Matthew Stines  
801 S 5th St  
Fisher, Illinois 61843 9522

Dear Superintendent Stines,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Ryan Wamser  
502 E Delaware Ave  
Casey, Illinois 62420 1915

Dear Superintendent Wamser,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Julie Brown  
1200 N Broadway Ave  
Salem, Illinois 62881 4204

Dear Superintendent Brown,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kelly Carpenter  
720 S Wells St  
Sandwich, Illinois 60548 2449

Dear Superintendent Carpenter,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Arthur Culver  
210 S Church Rd  
Bensenville, Illinois 60106 2303

Dear Superintendent Culver,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Tomi Diefenbach  
2801 York Rd  
Oak Brook, Illinois 60523 2334

Dear Superintendent Diefenbach,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jeff Dosier  
5500 S Grant St  
Hinsdale, Illinois 60521 4578

Dear Superintendent Dosier,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Dawn Elser  
133 S Grant St  
Westmont, Illinois 60559 1907

Dear Superintendent Elser,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Gregory Frerking  
300 W King St  
Fairfield, Illinois 62837 1710

Dear Superintendent Frerking,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent RDane Gale  
900 N Cherry St  
West Frankfort, Illinois 62896 1670

Dear Superintendent Gale,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Mark Halwachs  
20 W Walnut St  
Canton, Illinois 61520 2526

Dear Superintendent Halwachs,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Scott Harres  
PO Box 215  
Augusta, Illinois 62311 0215

Dear Superintendent Harres,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Brian Karraker  
PO Box 158  
Ashkum, Illinois 60911 0158

Dear Superintendent Karraker,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Patrick Keeney  
1411 W Lafayette St  
Watseka, Illinois 60970 7655

Dear Superintendent Keeney,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Janice Kunz  
PO Box 1206  
Galesburg, Illinois 61402 1206

Dear Superintendent Kunz,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Pam Leonard  
1381 Lake St  
Libertyville, Illinois 60048 1729

Dear Superintendent Leonard,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Tom Rude  
909 N Town Ave  
Princeville, Illinois 61559 7536

Dear Superintendent Rude,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Arthur Ryan  
4280 4th Ave  
East Moline, Illinois 61244 1924

Dear Superintendent Ryan,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent F Sauer  
14110 134th Ave W  
Taylor Ridge, Illinois 61284 9719

Dear Superintendent Sauer,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Ryan Hobbs  
2400 S 18th Ave  
Broadview, Illinois 60155 3930

Dear Superintendent Hobbs,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Byce Jerrell  
1750 W Plainfield Rd  
La Grange Highlands, Illinois 60525 3727

Dear Superintendent Jerrell,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Shain Crank  
903 E 800 North Rd  
Stanford, Illinois 61774 9612

Dear Superintendent Crank,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Mike Gauch  
201 S Ferne Clyffe Rd  
Goreville, Illinois 62939 2698

Dear Superintendent Gauch,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Gary Alexander  
2110 Highway 94 N  
Camp Point, Illinois 62320 2516

Dear Superintendent Alexander,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Thomas Bertrand  
PO Box 439  
Griggsville, Illinois 62340 0439

Dear Superintendent Bertrand,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jennifer Gill  
6200 Lake St  
Morton Grove, Illinois 60053 2416

Dear Superintendent Gill,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jilinda Larson  
16100 W 127th St  
Lemont, Illinois 60439 7462

Dear Superintendent Larson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Darren Root  
18601 Torrence Ave  
Lansing, Illinois 60438 2830

Dear Superintendent Root,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Douglas Wood  
14040 E 1200th Rd  
Paris, Illinois 61944 8401

Dear Superintendent Wood,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Adam Ehrman  
115 55th St  
Clarendon Hills, Illinois 60514 1593

Dear Superintendent Ehrman,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Tip Reedy  
602 4th Ave  
Rock Falls, Illinois 61071 1229

Dear Superintendent Reedy,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Matt Runge  
9611 S Hanna City Glasford Rd  
Glasford, Illinois 61533 9506

Dear Superintendent Runge,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Lance Thurman  
350 N Chicago St  
Rossville, Illinois 60963 9700

Dear Superintendent Thurman,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Beau Fretueg  
728 W North St  
Grayville, Illinois 62844 1338

Dear Superintendent Fretueg,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent David Roberts  
465 E 170th St  
South Holland, Illinois 60473 3400

Dear Superintendent Roberts,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kevin Blankenship  
20941 E Divide Rd  
Bluford, Illinois 62814 2402

Dear Superintendent Blankenship,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent DeAnn Heck  
10401 Grand Ave  
Franklin Park, Illinois 60131 2208

Dear Superintendent Heck,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Erik Hovel  
8940 W 24th St  
North Riverside, Illinois 60546 1158

Dear Superintendent Hovel,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Michele Lindenmeyer  
11900 S Kostner Ave  
Alsip, Illinois 60803 2307

Dear Superintendent Lindenmeyer,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Denise Bence  
1118 Fairfield Rd  
Mount Vernon, Illinois 62864 5726

Dear Superintendent Bence,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Darrell Gordon  
1013 North St  
Mazon, Illinois 60444 6236

Dear Superintendent Gordon,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Chad Gripp  
8000 E Prairie Rd  
Skokie, Illinois 60076 3402

Dear Superintendent Gripp,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jerry Klooster  
240 Warren Ave  
Kankakee, Illinois 60901 4319

Dear Superintendent Klooster,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jose Torres  
PO Box 27  
Royal, Illinois 61871 0027

Dear Superintendent Torres,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jeffrey Walkington  
PO Box 50  
Paxton, Illinois 60957 0050

Dear Superintendent Walkington,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Fritson Coffman  
304 8th St  
Lincoln, Illinois 62656 2658

Dear Superintendent Coffman,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Shannon Jasmon  
355 E Chicago St  
Elgin, Illinois 60120 6543

Dear Superintendent Jasmon,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent R Kerrick  
84 N Oak St  
Manteno, Illinois 60950 1522

Dear Superintendent Kerrick,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Susan Kovacs  
100 W Dixie Hwy  
Saint Anne, Illinois 60964 7276

Dear Superintendent Kovacs,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Branson Lawrence  
25775 W IL Route 134  
Ingleside, Illinois 60041 9587

Dear Superintendent Lawrence,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Therese Manderino  
34090 N Almond Rd  
Gurnee, Illinois 60031 5310

Dear Superintendent Manderino,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Ty Wolf  
1212 W Springfield Ave  
Urbana, Illinois 61801 2909

Dear Superintendent Wolf,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Ty Wolf  
1500 Sullivan Rd  
Aurora, Illinois 60506 1067

Dear Superintendent Wolf,

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Thomas Chiles  
PO Box 607  
Teutopolis, Illinois 62467 0607

Dear Superintendent Chiles,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Douglas DeSchepper  
150 W Madison St  
Lombard, Illinois 60148 3317

Dear Superintendent DeSchepper,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Robert Prusator  
1401 Flagg Rd  
Rochelle, Illinois 61068 6400

Dear Superintendent Prusator,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Michael Schiffman  
200 W Schuetz St  
Lebanon, Illinois 62254 1570

Dear Superintendent Schiffman,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Tim Thill  
PO Box 109  
Metamora, Illinois 61548 0109

Dear Superintendent Thill,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jeffrey Hill  
7776 Lake St  
River Forest, Illinois 60305 1735

Dear Superintendent Hill,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Bill Link  
11218 S Ridgeland Ave  
Worth, Illinois 60482 1970

Dear Superintendent Link,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Chad Allaman  
100 S Main St  
Palestine, Illinois 62451 1244

Dear Superintendent Allaman,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Bradley Bennett  
2710 North St  
Mount Vernon, Illinois 62864 2317

Dear Superintendent Bennett,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Andrew Brooks  
PO Box 189  
Kinmundy, Illinois 62854 0189

Dear Superintendent Brooks,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Scott Dearman  
5540 Arlington Dr E  
Hanover Park, Illinois 60133 5569

Dear Superintendent Dearman,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kyle Freeman  
408 E Mill St  
Wayne City, Illinois 62895 0868

Dear Superintendent Freeman,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Matt Gordon  
54 White Oak Dr  
Morris, Illinois 60450 3614

Dear Superintendent Gordon,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Marjorie Greuter  
127 S Canal St  
Newark, Illinois 60541 9776

Dear Superintendent Greuter,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Dale Heidbreder  
103 S Euclid Ave  
Princeton, Illinois 61356 1843

Dear Superintendent Heidbreder,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jeff Hinman  
20023 Diswood Rd  
Tamm, Illinois 62988 3234

Dear Superintendent Hinman,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Tony Ingold  
6067 State Route 154  
Pinckneyville, Illinois 62274 3414

Dear Superintendent Ingold,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Patreak Minasian  
2300 W Main St  
Mendota, Illinois 61342 1061

Dear Superintendent Minasian,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Seth Mingus  
1806 Guiles Ave  
Mendota, Illinois 61342 1204

Dear Superintendent Mingus,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Danielle Owens  
777 N Wood River Ave  
Wood River, Illinois 62095 1227

Dear Superintendent Owens,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Byron Sondgeroth  
800 S Walnut St  
Williamsville, Illinois 62693 9729

Dear Superintendent Sondgeroth,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Tony Whiston  
209U Wildcat Ct  
Wilmington, Illinois 60481 4500

Dear Superintendent Whiston,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Edwin Shoemate  
100 N School Rd  
East Dubuque, Illinois 61025 1174

Dear Superintendent Shoemate,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Brent Boren  
11101 N Wells Bypass Rd  
Mount Vernon, Illinois 62864 6588

Dear Superintendent Boren,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Shelly Clover-Hill  
119 N Garden St  
Mount Pulaski, Illinois 62548 1285

Dear Superintendent Clover-Hill,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Charles Goforth  
500 N 10th St  
Herrin, Illinois 62948 3335

Dear Superintendent Goforth,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Paige Maginel  
29067 W Grass Lake Rd  
Spring Grove, Illinois 60081 9494

Dear Superintendent Maginel,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Keith Reinhardt  
3314 W Richwoods Blvd  
Peoria, Illinois 61604 1027

Dear Superintendent Reinhardt,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Rob Wright  
100 W Randolph St 6-229  
Chicago, Illinois 60601

Dear Superintendent Wright,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Phillip Cox  
5410 Pine Ln  
Roscoe, Illinois 61073 7313

Dear Superintendent Cox,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Larry Maynard  
15100 S 94th Ave  
Orland Park, Illinois 60462 3291

Dear Superintendent Maynard,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jean Neal  
200 N Wolcott St  
Thornton, Illinois 60476 1254

Dear Superintendent Neal,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Scott Watson  
310 Teeter St  
Oakland, Illinois 61943 5304

Dear Superintendent Watson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Alicia Geddis  
PO Box 40  
Buncombe, Illinois 62912 0040

Dear Superintendent Geddis,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Suzzette Hesser  
439 Willard St  
Kewanee, Illinois 61443 3717

Dear Superintendent Hesser,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Crystal Johnson  
PO Box 396  
Burlington, Illinois 60109 0396

Dear Superintendent Johnson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Gary Lewis  
28593 N Bradley Rd  
Lake Forest, Illinois 60045 1154

Dear Superintendent Lewis,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Seth Miller  
3197 E 28th Rd  
Marseilles, Illinois 61341 9567

Dear Superintendent Miller,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent William Mulvaney  
304 E IL Route 10  
De Land, Illinois 61839 7020

Dear Superintendent Mulvaney,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent William Mulvaney  
PO Box 79  
Cerro Gordo, Illinois 61818 0079

Dear Superintendent Mulvaney,

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Brent Rademacher  
304 Main St  
Lindenwood, Illinois 61049 7700

Dear Superintendent Rademacher,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Scott Watson  
15732 S Howard St  
Plainfield, Illinois 60544 2399

Dear Superintendent Watson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Robert Bowser  
801 W Wall St  
Mulberry Grove, Illinois 62262 1049

Dear Superintendent Bowser,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Tim Buss  
6820 S Washtenaw Ave  
Chicago, Illinois 60629 1826

Dear Superintendent Buss,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Edward Fletcher  
2123 S Arlington Heights Rd  
Arlington Heights, Illinois 60005 4105

Dear Superintendent Fletcher,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jeffrey Whitsitt  
255 Comet Dr  
Braidwood, Illinois 60408 2029

Dear Superintendent Whitsitt,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Scott Fuhrhop  
1500 McDaniel Ave  
Evanston, Illinois 60201 3976

Dear Superintendent Fuhrhop,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Charles Schulte  
4601 Sauk Trl  
Richton Park, Illinois 60471 1470

Dear Superintendent Schulte,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Michael Brink  
1220 Kinoka Rd  
Patoka, Illinois 62875 1300

Dear Superintendent Brink,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent W Hawkins  
232 E Cleveland St  
Ladd, Illinois 61329 9741

Dear Superintendent Hawkins,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Brian Hodge  
311 Hurst Rd  
De Soto, Illinois 62924 1228

Dear Superintendent Hodge,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Charles Peterson  
302 Bellefontaine Dr  
Waterloo, Illinois 62298 1790

Dear Superintendent Peterson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Julie Harrelson  
3801 W Lake Ave  
Glenview, Illinois 60026 1292

Dear Superintendent Harrelson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent David Mills  
6611 171st St  
Tinley Park, Illinois 60477 3514

Dear Superintendent Mills,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jill Barger  
233 W South St  
Dix, Illinois 62830 1403

Dear Superintendent Barger,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Myron Caudle  
PO Box 128  
Kempton, Illinois 60946 0128

Dear Superintendent Caudle,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jill Fulkerson  
1 Bearcat Dr  
Christopher, Illinois 62822 1099

Dear Superintendent Fulkerson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent David Reavis  
643 Genesee Ave  
Morrison, Illinois 61270 2907

Dear Superintendent Reavis,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Diana Zurliene  
PO Box 582  
Byron, Illinois 61010 0582

Dear Superintendent Zurliene,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Sarah Emery  
1401 Greenwood Rd  
Glenview, Illinois 60026 1511

Dear Superintendent Emery,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Brad Lee  
1105 N Hunt Club Rd  
Gurnee, Illinois 60031 2418

Dear Superintendent Lee,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Matt Vollman  
708 N State St  
Lockport, Illinois 60441 2227

Dear Superintendent Vollman,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Dan Arickx  
500 E 15th St  
Beardstown, Illinois 62618 2052

Dear Superintendent Arickx,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Chad Colmone  
702 W 6th St  
Ramsey, Illinois 62080 0010

Dear Superintendent Colmone,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent K Cox  
6605 Prairie Hill Rd  
South Beloit, Illinois 61080 9530

Dear Superintendent Cox,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Laurie Heston  
4600 N Oak Park Ave  
Harwood Heights, Illinois 60706 4823

Dear Superintendent Heston,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Alex Moore  
848 E 170th St  
South Holland, Illinois 60473 3413

Dear Superintendent Moore,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Tad Everett  
5175 Highway 13  
Junction, Illinois 62954 2101

Dear Superintendent Everett,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Darryl Hogue  
925 S Giant City Rd  
Carbondale, Illinois 62902 5056

Dear Superintendent Hogue,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Christopher Lensing  
1700 Oplaine Rd  
Libertyville, Illinois 60048 1541

Dear Superintendent Lensing,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Ron McCord  
202 W Lincoln Ave  
Streator, Illinois 61364 2102

Dear Superintendent McCord,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Scott Vance  
715 Meadow Ave  
Rockdale, Illinois 60436 2405

Dear Superintendent Vance,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Todd Koehl  
8345 Archer Ave  
Willow Springs, Illinois 60480 1402

Dear Superintendent Koehl,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Margaret Manville  
1440 W Vermont Ave  
Calumet Park, Illinois 60827 6328

Dear Superintendent Manville,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent James Mitchem  
114 W 144th St  
Riverdale, Illinois 60827 2703

Dear Superintendent Mitchem,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Russell Ragon  
910 Woodlawn Ave  
Ford Heights, Illinois 60411 2299

Dear Superintendent Ragon,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Theresa Rouse  
7329 W 63rd St  
Summit, Illinois 60501 1817

Dear Superintendent Rouse,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Peter Sullivan  
PO Box 720  
Tolono, Illinois 61880 0720

Dear Superintendent Sullivan,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent R Tingley  
200 S Sheldon St  
Rantoul, Illinois 61866 2431

Dear Superintendent Tingley,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Todd Wernet  
1496 Illinois Route 121  
Toledo, Illinois 62468 4214

Dear Superintendent Wernet,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Maura Zinni  
1424 Minnesota Ave  
Windsor, Illinois 61957 1010

Dear Superintendent Zinni,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Lane Abrell  
633 County Highway 22  
Cowden, Illinois 62422 4104

Dear Superintendent Abrell,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Timothy Baldermann  
1500 Case St  
Centralia, Illinois 62801 5050

Dear Superintendent Baldermann,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Omar Castillo  
5800 E 3000 North Rd  
Streator, Illinois 61364 8881

Dear Superintendent Castillo,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Diane Cepela  
1100 E Indiana Ave  
Pontiac, Illinois 61764 1204

Dear Superintendent Cepela,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kara Coglianesi  
1300 1500th St  
Lincoln, Illinois 62656 5127

Dear Superintendent Coglianesi,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Lori Gehrke  
4580 Mount Pisgah Rd  
Cypress, Illinois 62923 2139

Dear Superintendent Gehrke,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Donna Gray  
26655 W Eames St  
Channahon, Illinois 60410 5380

Dear Superintendent Gray,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Nicholas Henkle  
700 1st St  
Colona, Illinois 61241 9028

Dear Superintendent Henkle,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Pamela Kibbons  
PO Box 549  
Grant Park, Illinois 60940 0549

Dear Superintendent Kibbons,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Cheryl McCarthy  
PO Box 107  
Serena, Illinois 60549 0107

Dear Superintendent McCarthy,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Jeffrey McCartney  
PO Box 539  
Earlville, Illinois 60518 0539

Dear Superintendent McCartney,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Mark Mitchell  
901 Hilltop Dr  
Sparland, Illinois 61565 9792

Dear Superintendent Mitchell,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Ronald Patton  
401 N Division St  
Harvard, Illinois 60033 3031

Dear Superintendent Patton,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Cathie Pezanoski  
1940 Swanwick St  
Chester, Illinois 62233 1127

Dear Superintendent Pezanoski,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Barb Rains  
1110 3rd St  
Fulton, Illinois 61252 1767

Dear Superintendent Rains,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Joseph Salmieri  
2101 6th Ave  
Rock Island, Illinois 61201 8909

Dear Superintendent Salmieri,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Andy Siegfried  
600 Louisa Ave  
Dupo, Illinois 62239 1469

Dear Superintendent Siegfried,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Joseph Simpkins  
324 W Charles St  
Buffalo, Illinois 62515 6267

Dear Superintendent Simpkins,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Steve Stein  
200 Campus Ave  
East Peoria, Illinois 61611 1601

Dear Superintendent Stein,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Matthew Swick  
401 E Fifth St  
Mackinaw, Illinois 61755 7623

Dear Superintendent Swick,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kathy Clark  
300 N 7th St  
Cornell, Illinois 61319 9282

Dear Superintendent Clark,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Derek Hutchins  
PO Box 130  
Elkville, Illinois 62932 0130

Dear Superintendent Hutchins,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Keith Liddell  
841 W End Ct  
Vernon Hills, Illinois 60061 1376

Dear Superintendent Liddell,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Keith Oates  
525 N 3rd St  
Girard, Illinois 62640 1157

Dear Superintendent Oates,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Terry Ryker  
3451 Morton Dr  
East Moline, Illinois 61244 1921

Dear Superintendent Ryker,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Scott Fisher  
701 W Gregory St  
Mt Prospect, Illinois 60056 2220

Dear Superintendent Fisher,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Kurt Alberstett  
PO Box C  
Louisville, Illinois 62858 0903

Dear Superintendent Alberstett,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent William Faller  
PO Box 218  
Elizabethtown, Illinois 62931 0218

Dear Superintendent Faller,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Keli Freedlund  
2030 County Road 1020 N  
Fairfield, Illinois 62837 2869

Dear Superintendent Freedlund,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Lynn Gibson  
PO Box 530  
Metropolis, Illinois 62960 0530

Dear Superintendent Gibson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Wes Heiar  
506 E Dover Rd  
Princeton, Illinois 61356 9552

Dear Superintendent Heiar,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Ehren Jarrett  
3365 State Hwy 3 N  
Wolf Lake, Illinois 62998

Dear Superintendent Jarrett,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

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- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Julie Morris  
PO Box 347  
Macon, Illinois 62544 0347

Dear Superintendent Morris,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent John Schwuchow  
111 Warrior Way  
Belleville, Illinois 62221 5117

Dear Superintendent Schwuchow,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Glenn Terry  
97 W 5th St  
El Paso, Illinois 61738 1049

Dear Superintendent Terry,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent John Ulferts  
1661 Cherry Hill Rd  
Joliet, Illinois 60433 8508

Dear Superintendent Ulferts,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Daniel Oakley  
410 157th St  
Calumet City, Illinois 60409 4704

Dear Superintendent Oakley,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Sean OLaughlin  
1255 Superior Ave  
Calumet City, Illinois 60409 5703

Dear Superintendent OLaughlin,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
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- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Robert Bardwell  
804 W Knob St  
Waltonville, Illinois 62894 2812

Dear Superintendent Bardwell,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Brian Kurz  
PO Box 69  
Oneida, Illinois 61467 0069

Dear Superintendent Kurz,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Michelle Lee  
1201 N Sheridan Rd  
Waukegan, Illinois 60085 2081

Dear Superintendent Lee,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Dan Mair  
555 N Main St  
Wauconda, Illinois 60084 1229

Dear Superintendent Mair,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
- 2) Have your middle or high schools had to impose new rules, regulations, or practices in order to better contain or monitor the use of e-cigarettes among students?
- 3) Have parents of your middle and high school students raised this issue with your principals or teachers?
- 4) Have your middle or high schools taken any additional steps to educate students about the harms of tobacco use, as well as the addictive nature of nicotine found in e-cigarette flavorings? Please describe any specific sessions, events, or initiatives.
- 5) Do your middle and high school principals or teachers have any idea where their under-18 students are purchasing e-cigarettes? Are there convenient stores, or vaping stores, that sell these products near high schools?
- 6) Is there anything that your middle or high school principals and teachers think Congress could be doing at the federal level to help in your efforts to protect a new generation of children from becoming addicted to nicotine?

While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



May 25, 2018

Superintendent Marty Payne  
110 Franks Rd  
Marengo, Illinois 60152 3425

Dear Superintendent Payne,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

Between 2011 and 2015, the use of e-cigarettes among high school students increased more than ten-fold—from 1.5 percent to 16 percent. While e-cigarette use by high school students declined slightly to 11.3 percent in 2016, e-cigarettes remain the most popular form of tobacco use among youth. This is especially concerning given that the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine found that there is “substantial evidence” that e-cigarette use increases the risk that youth will try cigarettes, and “conclusive evidence” that most e-cigarettes contain and emit numerous potentially toxic substances.

E-cigarette use among teenagers has become so prevalent that a number of high schools administrators across the country have been forced to take dramatic action in response. Some schools have banned USB drives from their campuses, as it is often difficult to differentiate them from certain vaping devices. Some schools have placed limitations on the number of students that can use the bathroom at one time, as young people congregate in bathroom stalls to secretly vape. Some schools have been forced to install additional security cameras in an effort to crack down on student use of e-cigarettes.

To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

We write today to understand what your district is experiencing with respect to student use of e-cigarettes. We would greatly appreciate answers to the following questions by June 29, 2018 (and please feel free to ask your schools to provide as much additional context or anecdotal information as they see fit):

- 1) Have your middle or high schools noticed an increase of e-cigarette use by their students over the past few years? If so, what are the most popular devices and/or accompanying flavors?
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While it remains an open question whether e-cigarettes can play a role in helping adult smokers to quit cigarettes, there is certainly no role for them to play in our nation's schools—and yet that is exactly where they are turning up. We appreciate any information you and your high schools may be able to provide on this important subject. Please send your responses electronically to [Jessica McNiece@durbin.senate.gov](mailto:Jessica_McNiece@durbin.senate.gov) and [Josie Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov](mailto:Josie_Villanueva@duckworth.senate.gov). Thank you.

Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Rohn Peterson  
PO Box 396  
Coulterville, Illinois 62237 0396

Dear Superintendent Peterson,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

From aggressively marketing cigarette and tobacco products near schools, to shamelessly using cartoon characters to entice children, and producing their tobacco products in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, it is no secret that big tobacco companies will stop at nothing to hook young people on their addictive and dangerous products. The good news is that, thanks to enhanced prevention and awareness policies, cigarette smoking among high school students is at record lows—dropping from 28 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2016. The bad news is that, much to our dismay, these gains are being jeopardized because of non-cigarette tobacco products—especially cigars and e-cigarettes with kid-appealing flavors.

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To help combat this alarming public health scourge, we have pressed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to expeditiously regulate these e-cigarette products and remove kid-friendly flavors from the market. We have also supported federal awareness efforts to educate the public about tobacco harms.

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Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

May 25, 2018

Superintendent Duane Schupp  
309 Hartman Ln  
O Fallon, Illinois 62269 1725

Dear Superintendent Schupp,

Over the past few years, there has been an alarming increase in vaping or electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use among high school students nationwide. In Illinois, 27 percent of high school students now use these products. We write today to request information regarding what our Illinois middle and high schools are experiencing with respect to student use of these dangerous and addictive nicotine products.

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Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator