

Lincoln County Schools: Learning about ENDS in a virtual world

Summary

In October LincolnHealth's District Tobacco Prevention Partner (DTPP) conducted electronic nicotine delivery system (ENDS) presentations at Whitefield Elementary school. These ENDS presentations were given to the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade classes.

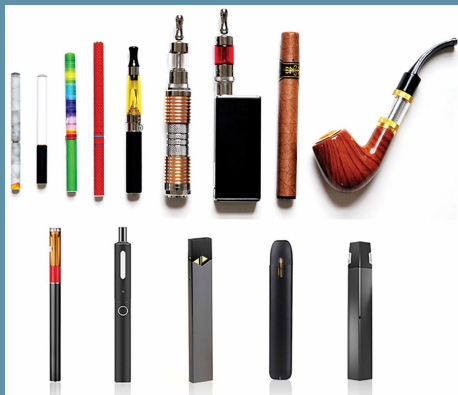
Issue

According to the Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey (MIYHS) in 2019, 27% of high school students and 5% of middle school students in Lincoln County reported having vaped in the past 30 days. Both of these rates have increased since 2017. The same data set shows that 9% of high school students and 1% of middle school students reported having smoked in the past 30 days. These smoking rates, unlike vaping, have decreased since 2017. This knowledge highlights the importance of providing Maine students with facts regarding these products along with the health effects they can cause.



Program

LincolnHealth's DTPP conducted three virtual ENDS presentations to the middle school classes at Whitefield Elementary School to raise awareness about these products. The ENDS presentation includes information about what ENDS are, how they work, how common use is, what contributes to teens using these products, the health effects, and how the students can take action. In addition, the teacher requested some information on tobacco and nicotine. To account for this, true/false and multiple choice questions were sprinkled throughout the presentation.



Results

By partnering with the physical education teacher in the Whitefield school a total of 45 students from the 6th, 7th, and 8th grades were able to learn about ENDS products. During the presentations the students were engaged and asked many questions that helped contribute to very successful presentations.

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