

August 12, 2021

To the Superintendent and Members of the Board of Education,

Thank you for your service to the children of Utah. Utah PTA recognizes that the past year has been difficult and you have taken on many challenges throughout this worldwide pandemic. We appreciate the time and attention you have taken to move the best practices forward to keep our students safe and healthy. As we continue to focus on the health of our youth, we respectfully request that you add a presentation and discussion to your agenda regarding "School District v. Juul Labs, Inc., et. al."

Utah PTA requests that by December, your School Board take the opportunity to discuss whether or not it would consider joining with over 450 districts nationwide, including Ogden, Provo, Tooele, and Weber in Utah in the "School District v. Juul Labs, Inc., et. al." litigation efforts as a potential opportunity to receive additional resources for education and prevention. This could also be a critical discussion on what the district is already doing to help fight the vaping epidemic.

Utah PTA takes positions on policy and legislation based on resolutions voted on by local members of Utah PTA. Utah PTA is directed in our work on e-cigarettes and youth usage by Utah PTA Health Resolution 2015-2 "Electronic Cigarettes And Utah's Youth" which states, "Utah PTA work in collaboration with state and local health departments, school boards, school districts, and other agencies to educate youth, parents, communities, and local elected officials on the dangers of ENDS products…"

Utah PTA has worked tirelessly in its advocacy efforts to stop vaping usage of students. It is discouraging to know that the 2019 Sharp Survey shows that 31.5% of 12th graders self-reported having vaped at least once. In addition, Utah's 12th graders were approximately 3 times more likely to have tried vaping than smoking, and almost 7 times more likely to have vaped in the past 30-days than they were to have smoked. There is still work to be done.

Regards,

Stacey Mollinet, Utah PTA President

Harry Mollinet

on behalf of the Utah PTA Board of Directors