

## The Pulse Of ASNC



# From The Desk of: Paula Feyerharm, MA, RN ASNC President 2023-2025

As I sit down to put my thoughts together for my first newsletter as President of ASNC, the first thought that comes to my mind is to say, "thank you". Thank you to each and every school nurse in the State of Connecticut. Day in, and day out, you provide thousands of students with the healthcare they need to succeed in school.

There is strength in numbers and for this I was drawn to help fellow nurses understand the mission of the ASNC, and the importance of being a school nurse. Too often I have encountered the general public, or other practitioners who have never worked in a school setting, make assumptions about the role of the school nurse. I am here as a leader to help move us toward the equity we deserve in our profession, and the support we deserve from our districts.

The mission of the Association of School Nurses of Connecticut is "to support, assist, and enhance the practice of professional school nurses in their development and implementation of comprehensive school health services that promote students' health and academic success."

Being drawn to nursing, which is the masterful balance of science and art, we school nurses find ourselves reminded daily that we practice nursing in an educational setting. We are the professionals in the building who often bridge the gap between community and school; whether by direct hands-on care and health education, or by referring to needed resources.

Our choice to work in this environment requires much grit and determination to deliver wonderful results. We are here to promote their health and academic success. A large part of having healthy students in school will be to continue to have a workforce of school nurses who understand the unique demands of the profession. ASNC will continue to work towards making sure our school nurses are prepared.

On a personal note, Fall is always my favorite time of the year. To me, ushering in of the cooler temperatures and changing leaves does not signify an end to things, but rather a cycle of renewal.

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A time when rest is needed in order to have further growth and development. I look forward to my next chapter of growth and development as your ASNC President for the next two years. I will proudly be working to have your voices heard. So thank you, and all that you do.

#### **Meet Our Board Members**

President - Paula Feyerharm MA, RN
Paula works in Tolland Public Schools as the Nurse
Coordinator and is also the school nurse at the Tolland
Intermediate School. This is her first year as the
ASNC president. Paula describes school nursing as a
rewarding experience, and she finds something extra
special working with the next generation to keep them
healthy, engaged, and in school. Nursing is a second
career in life for her, and she's happy to have chosen
this profession. Paula is also pursuing her Masters in
Nursing degree and holds a Masters Degree in
Psychology from Morehead State University.

#### **<u>President - Elect</u>**- Currently vacant

<u>Past President</u>- Kathy Neelon MS, BSN Kathy has extensive nursing experience. She worked for 6 years in various hospital settings on acute care med/surg and oncology units. She worked for 18 years in community health, beginning as a home care nurse and eventually became the Executive Director of the Portland VNA. Since 2004, Kathy has been the Nurse Coordinator for the Wallingford School District. She has been on the Board of ASNC since 2013. She was the Program Chair for 3 years, President- Elect for 2 years, and finally the President for 2 years. Kathy has kindly agreed to assist Paula Feyerharm as she transitions into her new role as President.

#### Treasurer- Melanie Griffin - RN

Melanie is our newest ASNC member. At the time of publication, her Bio was unavailable. Please stay tuned for more information, and follow our website to learn when she becomes officially installed. Welcome Melanie!

Education Committee - Pamela Neleber MSN, NBCN, began working as the Director of Health Services for Branford Public Schools in July 2022. Prior to that she worked in Guilford as the Middle School nurse, and later as the Health Services Coordinator. Her new role in Branford includes collaborating with School Based Health Center clinicians and the nursing staff. She became Nationally Certified in School Nursing in 2016, and urges all bachelor prepared school nurses to challenge

#### **ASNC Contacts:**

President:Paula Feyerharm MA, RNpfeyerharm@tolland.k12.ct.usPast President:Kathy Neelon MS, RNkneelon@wallingfordschools.org

President Elect: Currently Vacant

Treasurer: Pending

Technology Chair: Lauren Young BSN, RN <u>Lyoung@wallingfordschools.org</u>

Recording Secretary: Janene Batten EdD, MLS <u>janene.batten@yale.edu</u>

Corresponding Secretary: Currently Vacant

NESNC Liaison Suzanne Levasseur MS, APRN, CPNP <u>slevasseur@westportps.org</u>

NASN Director:Verna Bernard-Jones MS, RN, NCSNvbjones3@gmail.comNewsletter:Annette Sauerbrunn MPH, RNbsauerbrunn@snet.net

Education Chair:Pamela Neleber MS, RN, NCSNpneleber@branfordschools.orgProgram Chair:Currently VacantLyoung@wallingfordschools.org

Government Relations: Donna Kosiorowski MS, RN, NCSN <u>donnak.ncsn@gmail.com</u>

Membership Marion Avitable RN avitable.marion@northhavenschools.org

NBCSN Liaison (SN Cert.) Donna Kosiorowski MS, RN, NCSN donnak.ncsn@gmail.com

themselves professionally, and to take this exam. She most recently graduated this past May with a Master's degree in nursing with a concentration in School Nursing. Through her graduate studies and networking with school nurses from around the country, she developed a passion for school health resources with her colleagues. She volunteers on the ASNC Education Committee and ASNC Executive Board which provides continued learning opportunities. In her free time, Pam enjoys spending time outdoors, taking Zumba classes and entertaining her four cats: Quinoa, Couscous, Cookie, and Silvester.

**Program Committee** - Currently vacant

#### **Corresponding Secretary** - Currently vacant

Recording Secretary- Janene Batten EdD, MLS Janene is a senior research and education librarian in a Connecticut university medical library, and has been a long-time ally for school nurses. She first became involved with school nurses in 2007 when her library received an NIH/NLM grant to do outreach to a group in the community. School nurses were chosen because they often are disenfranchised from clinical health information supporting their practice. Besides sending out a survey to all school nurses in CT asking about their information needs, Janene went on "road trips" to train these nurses to find information that was freely available. She provided a free "Ask me a question" service and generously supplied any literature that a school nurse requested, at no cost. Since then, she has completed a doctoral degree, again focusing on how CT school nurses perceive they are valued in their educational setting.

**Government Relations Committee** - Donna Kosiorowski co-chairs this committee and has been a board member of ASNC for over 30 years! During that time, she has served as President of ASNC, NASN Director as Connecticut's representative, and Government Relations co-chair, the position she currently holds. She has over 30 years in school nursing as a school nurse and nursing supervisor. Retiring in 2019, Donna continues to be involved in promoting school nursing as an equal member of the professional school team. As Government Relations co- chair, she advocates for school nurses by closely following legislation, providing oral and written testimony, and communicating with legislators and stakeholders, who often don't understand the role school nurses play in the academic success of Connecticut's students. Donna serves as the voice for school nurses in articulating the contribution nurses

make to keep students healthy and ready to learn. Maintaining a presence in Hartford is extremely valuable as laws impacting the day to day practices of school nurses are often made without input from nurses. Donna welcomes all school nurses to join her in this dedicated mission to support us all.

Newsletter Editor - Annette Sauerbrunn MPH. RN Annette has been a member of ASNC since 1995, and became the Newsletter Editor in 2008. Prior to becoming a school nurse, she worked for 17 years in various acute care units at St. Raphael's Hospital, now part of the Yale healthcare system. She retired from the North Haven school system last year after 28 years, where she worked as both the Middle School nurse and district Nursing Supervisor. Working now as an occasional substitute school nurse has given her a whole new perspective of our profession! Being the Newsletter Editor gives her the opportunity to provide information on timely topics that are of interest to school nurses in CT. Have you done any presentations in your school that you'd like to share? This is your opportunity to tell us about the good work you do to promote student health within your school community. All members of ASNC are welcome to submit articles (Word doc) and photos (jpeg) to her at:

<u>sauerbrunn.annette@northhavenschools.org</u> The newsletter is published twice a year on our website. Your submissions are always welcome.

<u>NASN Director</u> - Verna Bernard- Jones MS, BSN, RN, NCSN

Verna recently retired from public school nursing after 25 years. She graduated from the University of Bridgeport with a BSN degree, and later earned her Masters Degree in Health Administration at Quinnipiac University. Verna has been involved with ASNC for about 15 years, and began her involvement as the Corresponding Secretary after being invited to attend a board meeting. She was immediately impressed with the members' immense knowledge of school nurse issues and dedication to advocating for its members. In 2011, Verna was asked to assume the role of president of ASNC and served for 2 years in that position. In 2014 she became ASNC's Membership Chair, and this past September was appointed as Director to NASN, Additionally, she is the cochair of the School Nurse Advisory Committee since its inception in 2013. Verna very proudly states that "ASNC is truly dedicated to uplifting the profession of School Nursing in Connecticut, and is extremely happy to be involved in fulfilling its mission."

#### Membership - Marion Avitable, RN

Marion is a graduate of St. Vincent's Hospital School of Nursing, and is presently enrolled in the RN to BSN program at Sacred Heart University. She has been employed as a school nurse in North Haven since 2006, and has been the nurse at Ridge Road Elementary School from January 2007- June 2023. She also became the District Supervisor in July 2022. Marion continues as the Nursing Supervisor and is also the CNA instructor for the High School.

New England School Nurse Conference Liaison (NESNC) - Suzanne Levasseur, MSN, APRN, CPNP Suzanne is currently working as the Supervisor of Health Services for the Westport Public School District. She received her BSN from Catholic University, her MSN from Pace University, and her certification as an RN and CPNP from Hunter College. She is the past president of the ASNC and past Connecticut Director for NASN. She works with other New England school nurses to help plan these regional conferences on a 6 year rotation. CT hosted this very successful conference this past May.

#### OCTOBER DINNER MEETING

Our first dinner meeting of the new school year was held on Oct. 19, 2023, at Cafe Fiore in Cromwell. In addition to a delicious and plentiful buffet, there was a presentation for CT school nurses, given by attorneys Dori Page Antonetti and Andreana ("Andy") Bellach from the law firm of Shipman and Goodwin LLP. The discussion centered around two main topics: **New Connecticut Legislation** affecting student health and wellness, and **Hot Topics** related to participation of students with disabilities attending field trips and extracurricular activities.



The attorneys share a light moment with a very appreciative audience.



Tees and sweatshirts with the ASNC logo were also offered during the dinner meeting.

#### **New CT Legislation:**

- School indoor air quality inspections will be required annually in all schools, using the EPA's IAQ Tools for Schools program, beginning Jan. 1, 2024.
- HVAC inspections will be required in all schools every 5 years beginning Jan. 1, 2024 in accordance with statutory standards. Under certain conditions, districts may apply for a one year waiver.
- The new law mandates that the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) develop reporting forms for both types of inspections. Schools will be required to submit their completed forms to the DAS.
- Guidelines for optimal temperature comfort ranges (65 to 80 degrees) for school buildings and facilities will be developed by July 1, 2024. The new law will permit a wider comfort range for gymnasiums and natatoriums (swimming pools).
- The deadline for boards of education to provide free menstrual products in school restrooms for students in grades 3 through 12 has been delayed until September 1, 2024.

- Schools may use an assessment tool, to be recommended by CSDE by Jan. 1, 2024, to identify risk factors for youth suicide.
- Medicaid will now reimburse schools for the cost of school- based suicide risk assessments and other mental health evaluations.
- Recently passed legislation about the appointment qualifications for School Nurses and Nurse Practitioners now exempts the previous requirement of at least one year full-time working experience as an RN during the five years before their Board of Education employment.
- Boards of Education must provide at least 15 hours of professional development for School Nurses and Nurse Practitioners beginning July 1, 2024. Training must include IEPs and Section 504 plans.
- For newly hired School Nurses and Nurse Practitioners, this training must occur within 30 days of contractual hire.
- Other annual training requirements, beginning in the 2024-25 school year, are to include socialemotional learning, school climate and culture, and evidence based interventions. Any employee may participate in this training.
- In-service violence prevention training must be offered to para educators and other non-certified employees, who may voluntarily participate in these trainings.
- In-service seizure response training for seizure response is now a requirement.
- New provisions allow a school nurse or qualified school employee to distribute/administer an opioid antagonist (Narcan) only after completing an approved training offered by the CSDE, Dept. of Consumer Protection, and Dept. of Public Health, or in accordance pursuant to an agreement with a prescriber or pharmacist.
- The new law also permits boards of education to install a secure box to hold the Narcan, in agreement with a prescriber. There are certain requirements for this box that must be met.

#### **Hot Topics:**

- Responsibilities <u>under Section 504</u> of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) applies only to recipients of federal funds.
- However, the ADA states that "No qualified individual with a disability shall, by reason of such disability, be excluded from participation in, or be denied the benefits of services, programs or activities ..... or be discriminated against by a public entity". It is important to note that this applies to all state and local entities, including school districts, whether or not they receive federal funds.
- Covered under Section 504 may be a student, employee, a parent, or a member of the public who visits the school. Schools are only required to provide a free appropriate public education (FAPE) to students.
- The definition of physical or mental impairment recognized under Section 504 is very broad, and can include both physiological disorders and psychological disorders.
- It is important to plan ahead for coordination of all student needs, including those with disabilities, during field trips and participation in extracurricular activities. District policies should be reviewed and staff should be trained in all requirements of such students.

#### A Message from Donna Kosiorowski – Co-chair School Nurse Advisory Council (SNAC)

The Association of School Nurses of Connecticut advocates for school nurses in many ways. This article will inform you about the work being done to advance our profession to the level of other school support staff. The first section offers information related to the School Nurse Advisory Council (SNAC). The second provides details related to the goal of a Special Services Endorsement for school nurses.

Section one of Public Act No. 13-187, An Act Concerning a School Nurse Advisory Council and An Advisory Council on Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorder Associated with Streptococcal Infections, effective July 1, 2013 established the School Nurse Advisory Council. The Council makes recommendations

to the Commissioners of Public Health and Education and the joint standing committees of the General Assembly on matters related to education and public health including (1) professional development for school nurses; (2) school nurse staffing levels; (3) the delivery of health care services by school nurses in schools and other matters that affect school nurses; (4) protocols for Emergency Medication Administration; and (5) protocols for evaluating certain temporary medical conditions that may be symptomatic of serious illnesses or injuries.

The Council is in its tenth year and meets monthly via Zoom from September to December and once at legislative session end. Annual reports are submitted to Co-Chairs of Education and Public Health and Commissioners of State Department of Education and Public Health. For the first time in 2023, the Council recommendations and the Association of School Nurses of Connecticut and Connecticut Nurses' Association achieved notice by the Legislative Education Chair, Representative Jeff Currey, (Manchester and East Hartford). Representative Currey is currently working with ASNC and SNAC toward the creation of a Special Services Endorsement (SSE) for school nurses.

Members of the 2023-24 Council are:

VERNA BERNARD JONES MSN Co-chair SNAC, ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL NURSES/ AFT

DONNA KOSIOROWSKI MS RN NCSN-E Cochair SNAC, CONNECTICUT NURSES ASSOCIATION

MARYSIA CHABOTTE MSN RN CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION FOR HEALTH CARE AT HOME BARBARA ZIOGAS MD CONNECTICUT CHAPTER OF PEDIATRICS AAP SHEILA MCKAY CONNECTICUT BOARDS OF

EDUCATION
PATRICK STIRK CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION
OF PUBLIC-SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS
DR. ANTHONY SALVATORE CONNECTICUT
FEDERATION OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS

<u>CONSULTANTS:</u> CHLO ANNE BOBROWSKI MSN-DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

CHRISTINE VELAZQUEZ -DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

For information about SNAC go to SDE: School Nurse Advisory Council (ct.gov)

<u>Note:</u> Current members are listed here. Members on SDE site require update.

### What Will Special Services Endorsement Do For School Nurses?

Special Services Endorsement will:

- Create a standard of preparation for the role of school nurse. Currently there is no program, preservice, internship or comprehensive orientation for nurses entering schools. Nurses have no experience or knowledge regarding health services, special education or 504 in a school environment.
- Will offer professional equity to school nurses with other school support staff (Social workers, Speech and Language, Psychologists, Counselors...). Nurses are presently classified "Non-Certified", not "Certified" staff.
- Will clarify criteria for hiring practices for employers (BOE, Health Department, VNA, Town...) by defining requirements for school nurses.
- 4. Result: well prepared, highly qualified professional work force capable of a high level of service to students, staff, administration, and districts. Highly qualified school nurses can more successfully function within their unique scope in compliance with educational laws and regulations. With one foot in health and one foot in education, school nurses are unique practitioners.
- 5. Special Services Endorsements currently offered by Department of Education:
  - Speech and Language Pathologist (#061)
  - School Counselor (#068)
  - School Psychologist (#070)
  - School Social Worker (#071)
  - School Nurse-Teacher (#072)- for nurses teaching nurse aide curriculum
  - School Dental Hygienist-Teacher (#073)

For further information regarding SNAC and SSE contact:

Donna Kosiorowski donnak.ncsn@gmail.com

# BREAST SELF EXAMINATION INSTRUCTION IN CONNECTICUT SCHOOLS: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Note: The following information was kindly provided to ASNC by Attorney Jane Ferrall, Executive Director of the **Get In Touch Foundation.** 

In 2016, as the results of efforts by then State Senator Gayle Slossberg and others, Connecticut General Statutes 10-16b ("Prescribed courses of study") was amended to include "developmentally appropriate instruction in performing self-examinations for the purpose of screening for breast cancer." The statute specifically indicates that the program of instruction offered in Connecticut public schools "shall include" the teaching of self-examinations for the purpose of screening for breast cancer ("BSE" or breast self examination); i.e., this provision is not optional or merely "recommended."

According to the Report of the Office of Legislative Research dated July 8, 2022, entitled "Required Public School Program of Study," 10-16b does not specify which subject areas must be covered by grade, nor does the state specify a specific curriculum that teachers must follow when providing instruction in this area. However, the report does make clear that curriculum that supports BSE "must be" included in the course of study provided in Connecticut public Schools. The Get In Touch Foundation ("GIT") applauds Connecticut's forward- thinking and proactive approach to breast health and wellness for Connecticut's students.

Since 2008, GIT has impacted over 1.2 million students, in all 50 states and in 34 countries, with its free breast health educational materials, available in English and Spanish, and appropriate instruction for in BSE for grades 5- 12. The curriculum materials, including a downloadable "Educators Downloadable Toolkit," and paper Daisy Wheels teaching tools, are free to order on the website. Shipping is also included. The BSE student education program has been used by thousands of school nurses and health educators and will make compliance with the 10-16b requirement straightforward and fun for the students. Please contact the GIT Foundation on their website or by calling 203-605-4288, or at info@getintouchfoundation.org with any questions.



**Daisy Wheel** 

#### **TPIU HALO AWARDS**

The TPIU HALO (Humanism, Action, Listening, Optimism) Awards Gala Dinner is an event honoring outstanding people who are helping to increase compassion in our healthcare system. Paula Feyerharm and Verna Bernard-Jones from ASNC had the pleasure of attending this event on October 18 2023 at Anthony's Ocean View Ballroom in New Haven, and were very proud to to be present to honor Kimberly Sandor, MSN, FNP, RN. who is the Executive Director of the Connecticut Nurses Association & Foundation. Kim used her time at the microphone after receiving her award to advocate for nurses and to remind everyone present of how critical nurses are in our workforce. According to their website, https://TPIU.org, "the dinner was a success, with a large gathering of Honorees who have made a significant impact here in Connecticut, working to increase compassion which leads to improved patient outcomes and decreased healthcare costs. This gathering demonstrates the universal theme of TPIU, treating every patient as if 'The Patient is U' ". A sincere congratulations goes out to Kim from all of us at ASNC!

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO NEW ENGLAND SCHOOL NURSES HONORED AS CHAMPIONS OF THE ALLERGY AND ASTHMA COMMUNITY

On November 3, 2023, ASNC President Paula Feyerharm and NASN Director Verna Bernard- Jones attended a gala held in Boston, Massachusetts, to receive an award from the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America, on behalf of all Connecticut School Nurses. Also present were some nurses from other New England states who accepted this prestigious award for their respective School Nurses. Congratulations to all!





**Laurie Fleming** MPH, NCSN, RN, New Hampshire Association of School Nurses

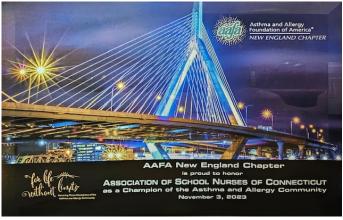
**Angie Buker** MSN, NCSN, RN, Maine Association of School Nurses

**Catherine Hampson** MSN,NCSN,RN, Massachusetts School Nurse Organization

**Paula Feyerharm** MA, RN, Association of School Nurses of Connecticut

Verna Bernard-Jones and Paula Feyerharm represented Connecticut School Nurses.





# Connecticut Department of Public Health Fact Sheet Tobacco Control Program | January 2023

SAFE DISPOSAL FOR ELECTRONIC NICOTINE DELIVERY SYSTEMS(ENDS)

Overview: E-cigarettes and other electronic vapor products or 'vapes', their rechargeable batteries and cartridges, and the bottles that contain e-liquids (liquid nicotine mixtures) are considered hazardous waste as they can pose a threat to human health and to the environment if they are disposed of improperly. Electronic vapor product and e-liquid waste should not be thrown in the regular trash or flushed. Instead, these items should be taken safely to a hazardous waste facility. This fact sheet provides descriptions of the types of hazardous materials in vapes and tips for schools and others about safe electronic vapor product and nicotine waste disposal.



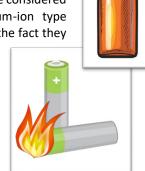


Nicotine Is an Acute Hazardous Waste: Discarded or neglected vaping products may have unused e-liquid that contains nicotine. Nicotine, including nicotine salt, is listed by the Environmental Protection Agency as an acute hazardous waste. Improper disposal or storage of vaping products may lead to unintentional exposure and accidental nicotine poisoning. In 2022, America's Poison Control Centers managed more than 6,700 exposure cases related to e-cigarette devices and liquid nicotine. Liquid nicotine can be fatal to small children involved in accidental exposures.

Improper disposal of vapes and e-liquid products can be harmful to the environment. If thrown in the trash or flushed into the sewer system, the nicotine solution in an e-liquid product can seep into the ground or water and become a danger for wildlife and humans.<sup>5</sup>

Batteries Are Hazardous Waste: E-cigarettes and their components are considered hazardous waste. Vaping products typically contain lithium or lithium-ion type batteries. Both types of batteries are considered hazardous waste due to the fact they

are ignitable and reactive. The shape and construction of e-cigarettes can make them (more likely than other products with lithium-ion batteries) behave like 'flaming rockets' when a battery fails.<sup>6</sup> Fires or explosions caused by the batteries used in vaping products are uncommon but have been linked to explosions in recycling trucks when batteries are not



disposed of properly. Additionally, as e-cigarette batteries degrade, the compounds in them can seep into nearby water.<sup>5</sup>

All types of batteries are eligible to be managed as <u>Universal Waste</u>. Individuals should separate the battery from the rest of the vaping product, then dispose of it. Most buildings and homes already generate other types of universal waste, such as fluorescent lamps, other types of batteries (e.g., emergency lighting and laptop batteries), used electronics and rechargeable power tools. Vaping product batteries can be simply thrown away with other household batteries.<sup>5</sup>

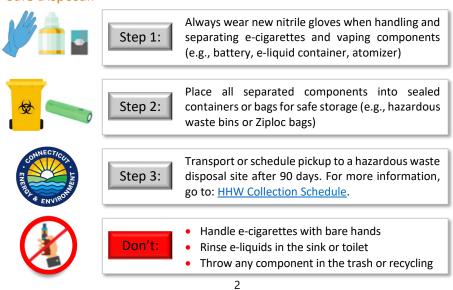
#### **Best Practices for Safe Disposal:**

- Turn off the device and remove the rechargeable battery before disposal. Devices with a 'push button' could be activated when placed against other items in a pocket or storage container. If the device is not yours, have the user do this.
- Handle used and discarded cartridges carefully to avoid unintentional exposure to unused nicotine. E-liquid can be absorbed through the skin and cause accidental poisoning. Do not throw cartridges in the regular trash.
- Do not rinse electronic vapor product items, especially e-liquid containers, to remove e-liquid residue. That water will become hazardous.



 Never throw rechargeable batteries into the trash. Store them in a cool, temperature-controlled environment and in a container clearly labeled for hazardous waste. Deliver the sealed container to a local hazardous waste facility every 90 days.

#### Steps for Safe Disposal:



#### Information for Safe Disposal at Schools:

Schools have been put in the unexpected position of confiscating electronic vaping devices from students. Administrators are now expending significant resources to respond to the vaping epidemic<sup>7</sup> but may not be aware of disposal options. Schools generate other forms of fully regulated hazardous materials, such as waste from science labs and medical waste from the nurse's office. They may be able to use the same vendor(s) to dispose of the vaping products. If the school nurse's office generates biomedical or pharmaceutical waste (e.g., epi pens and medications), the vendor that handles those items may also be able to dispose of vaping products.

Most schools are classified as a 'Conditionally-Exempt Small Quantity Generator' (CESQG). A CESQG can contact the contractor running a Household Hazardous Waste Collection event in advance and complete the required paperwork to get their vaping product waste pre-approved for collection. They can also hire a hauler that is licensed by the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) to take away the waste. Nicotine is classified as an 'acutely hazardous waste' and could affect the school's hazardous waste generator category if more than one kilogram of liquid nicotine waste is collected.

Provided below are links to DEEP's small business collection page, hazardous waste facilities, and a list of licensed haulers:

Connecticut

Department of Energy &

- **DEEPs Small Business Page**
- **DEEPs Hazardous Waste Facilities**
- **DEEPs Licensed Haulers**

## **Environmental Protection**

#### References:

- <sup>1</sup> EPA opinion letter on e-liquid as hazardous waste: <a href="https://rcrapublic.epa.gov/files/14850.pdf">https://rcrapublic.epa.gov/files/14850.pdf</a>. Discarded or neglected vaping products may contain harmful substances, including unused e-liquid.
- <sup>2</sup> Krause MJ, Townsend TG. Hazardous waste status of discarded electronic cigarettes. Waste Manag. 2015; 39:57-62;
- <sup>3</sup> Hendlin YH. Alert: Public health implications of electronic cigarette waste. American Journal of Public Health. 2018;108(11):1489-1490
- National Poison Data System, America's Poison Centers. e-Cigarettes Liquid Nicotine, https://www.aapcc.org/track/ecigarettes-liquid-nicotine.
- <sup>5</sup> "Tips for Safe Disposal of e-Cigarettes and e-Liquid Waste." U.S. Food and Drug Administration, FDA, 23 Sept. 2020, https://www.fda.gov/tobacco-products/products-ingredients-components/tips-safe-disposal-e-cigarettes-and-e-liquidwaste
- <sup>6</sup> "Disposing of e-Cigarette Waste Public Health Law Center." Public Health Law Center at Mitchell Hamlin School, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Dec. 2019, https://www.publichealthlawcenter.org/sites/default/files/resources/Disposingof-E-Cigarette-Waste.pdf
- <sup>7</sup> "HHW Collection Schedule." *CT.gov,*

https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Waste-ManagementandDisposal/HouseholdHazardous-Waste/HHW-Collection-Schedule



For More Information, Contact:

Connecticut Department of Public Health | Tobacco Control Program 410 Capitol Avenue, PO Box 340308, MS #11HLS Hartford, CT 06134-0308

Call: 860-509-8251 or visit: www.ct.gov/DPH/Tobacco

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