



Hobart Police Department



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Dear Parents & Students:

It is a rainy day here on the first day of Spring, and Hobart youths are preparing for Spring Break and looking forward to the end of the school year. As parents, many of us are sorting out our schedules to provide the best we can for our children.

It is part of my job to be tasked with the latest things afflicting kids in our schools; and if possible, partner with the schools to come up with strategies to prevent these hazards. As an example, when drug presence seems to increase in the schools, we increase our anti-drug campaigns through prevention programs and increase random locker sniffs with our k-9s to deter possession on premises of schools.

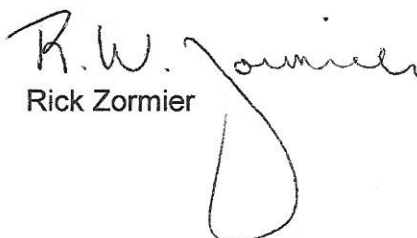
With a multitude of campaigns bombarding our Generation Z kids, I want to congratulate parents and schools with notable downward trends in drug use and experimentation within Generation Z according to the Center for Disease Control (CDC). This is very good news for our teens that are beginning to establish lifelong healthy dietary and exercise habits. If we keep working together, we can keep up the trends.

However, the point to this correspondence is the rapid, epidemic like influx of JUULING amongst teenagers. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the CDC have found juuling use or electronic vapor smoking devices to be harmful to children. Our School Resource Officers (SROs) have found these devices in every setting except for the Early Learning Center.

In addition to being bad for their health and a distraction from school, these juuling devices are illegal to possess on school property and by kids. **In partnership with the school staff, our SRO's will continue to vigorously confiscate and charge students through the schools or through the courts with the violations.**

The police department and the SRO's would rather not waste our resources and time chasing this problem down but it has become the necessary evil. **As parents PLEASE HELP us keep this problem out of the schools and out of your children's lives.** Even if you do not think your child is involved, talk to them, and encourage them to stay away from it. Let's work together to keep these devices out of our schools.

Sincerely


Rick Zormier