



FULLERTON JOINT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Office of the Superintendent

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October 11, 2022

Dear FJUHSD Staff, Families, and Community,

Within FJUHSD the safety of our students and staff is our highest priority. To these ends, over the past two years, in addition to measures taken regarding COVID-19, we have been working on enhancing safety protocols throughout the District. Included in these efforts have been the increase in campus security personnel, strengthening our coordination and partnerships with local law enforcement, establishing a new position of Director of Safety and Risk Management, building a robust system of mental health supports, staff training by our site based mental health specialists, and increasing opportunities to engage our community through county and district hosted events.

One area of growing concern to the safety of communities here in Southern California and schools across the county is the deadly drug fentanyl, including an alarming trend of a colorful fentanyl referred to as rainbow fentanyl. To date, no incidents of fentanyl exposure have been recorded in FJUHSD, but we recognize that our community is not immune to this and other dangers. This includes recent news reports regarding past FJUHSD students who were recently the victim of a possible fentanyl overdose. As with any passing of current or former FJUHSD students, our hearts grieve for the families, friends, and staff members that have been connected to these former students. Please rest assured, that as we have become aware of these passings, our FJUHSD crisis response teams have been active on our campuses providing support and resources to our students and staff members.

Although a frightening trend, over recent years, the District has implemented several initiatives, programs, and practices to raise awareness and communicate the dangers of drugs and illegal substances to both students and families. These include:

- Enhanced campus security protocols including full-time Student Resource Officers (SRO) and additional campus security personnel at each campus as well as robust video surveillance.
- Contraband dogs visit school sites on a regular basis to determine if drugs or illegal substances are present.
- Campus air monitoring systems provide alerts to administrators when vapes are used in select areas.
- District nurses are currently in the process of working with the Orange County Department of Education to determine the feasibility of having [naloxone](#) available at school sites. Naloxone is a life-saving medication that can reverse the effects of an overdose from opioids, including heroin, fentanyl, and prescription opioid medication.
- An upcoming Parent Education and Safety meeting scheduled on October 18, 2022 in the Sunny Hills Theater presented by Fullerton Police

Department, La Habra Police Department, and Buena Park Police Department to educate parents on the dangers of fentanyl and other drugs and to learn more about other safety concerns.

- Red Ribbon Week, 2022 will have an emphasis on the [“One Pill Can Kill” campaign](#) that is currently being promoted by the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA).

In FJUHSD, anyone can anonymously report or notify school officials of incidents or actions that may pose a danger to individuals or the school through [FJUHSD STOPIT](#), an app based system to empower students to report anything of concern. Please let your students know that by using this anonymous tool if they suspect fentanyl use, they could save a fellow student’s life.

If you know of someone that is struggling from drug addiction or abuse, below are some helpful resources:

- [CDC fentanyl-relates facts, tips and resources.](#)
- [Care Solace](#) is an online resource for FJUHSD families and staff with a live 24/7 concierge meant to assist individuals in finding local mental health related programs and counseling services. Access to this and other FJUHSD mental wellness partners can be found [here](#).
- [FJUHSD Parent Workshop](#), Safety Tips All Parents Should Know, presented by Fullerton, La Habra, and Buena Park Police Departments
- [DEA Recovery Resources](#)
- [One Pill Can Kill Campaign](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\) Fentanyl Facts](#)
- [Fighting Fentanyl Together Forum](#), presented by OC Sheriff’s Academy

Thank you for your partnership in keeping our students safe from fentanyl and other dangers that exist today. Please reach out to your student’s school administration with questions, concerns, or information that you would like to share.

Sincerely,



Steve McLaughlin, Ed.D.
Superintendent

SM/lh