

To: Board of Education

From: Vicki Collie-Akers, associate director, health promotion research at KU

Re: Tobacco 21 Initiative

Date: September 10, 2018

Background:

Raising the minimum legal sale age of tobacco products to 21 (Tobacco 21) is an important, emerging policy strategy to reduce smoking that complements and builds on proven approaches such as tobacco prevention and cessation programs, higher tobacco taxes and smoke-free air laws. Raising the tobacco sale age to 21 will have a substantial positive impact on public health and save lives.

Current Report:

This report will give insight into why the Board should support this initiative and what is currently happening in the district, in regards to this topic. Vaping, which has been a rapidly growing trend throughout high schools, will be addressed and how it has been incorporated into the health and wellness curriculum.