

SAN FELIPE DEL RIO
Consolidated Independent School District
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT



P.O. DRAWER 428002

DEL RIO, TEXAS 78842

November 9, 2018

Dear Parents,

Out of an abundance of concern for our students and community, I am sharing what I perceive to be a growing concern for our secondary students. Statistically speaking, over the past three months we have seen an increasing amount of drug activity amongst our secondary students. In comparison, 10 of our students had been placed at our alternative school for drug possession and/or being under the influence of a controlled substance by the end of the second six weeks grading period last school year. This school year, 23 students have already been charged and processed for placement at our alternative school for the same offenses. One factor which we believe may be contributing to this, is an increasing number of students who are using marijuana through “vaping”. Vaping is the act of inhaling and exhaling the aerosol, often referred to as vapor, which is produced by an e-cigarette or similar device.

The District performs random drug screenings routinely every six weeks. This week, SFDR CISD administration was informed that in this month’s random screening, four tests indicated the use of a controlled substance. In the history of having these drug screenings, the District has never received this number of positive results for the use of controlled substances in one month.

Therefore, please note that in order to further monitor this critical issue, the District will begin increasing the frequency of K-9 (Drug Dogs) surveillance and provide continuous lessons and encouragement for our students to say “No” to drugs. We will also continue to coordinate efforts with our local law enforcement agencies to assist in providing safe and drug-free schools for our community. To further support these efforts and to strengthen the school/parent partnership in this endeavor, we will offer (beginning next month) free drug screening kits to parents who voluntarily wish to test their students at home. You will not be expected to report these findings to the school or law enforcement, but will be encouraged to seek counseling for students whose test show signs of drug use.

Finally, we are encouraging parents to have daily conversations with their students about the dangers of drug use and to report any drug activity they become aware of. Working together we can provide the safest school setting possible for our students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carlos Rio". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Superintendent of Schools
San Felipe Del Rio Consolidated Independent School District