

Fulton County Schools is committed to providing safe and secure learning environments for our students. Our Board of Education makes annual, ongoing investments that provide safety and security to our physical buildings as well as programs that focus on the social and emotional well-being of our students and staff. This commitment continues with regular parent and community education about current student safety issues.

### What parents need to know about “Marijuana and Drug-Based Edibles”

*Information obtained and adapted from justthinktwice.gov, Nevada Tobacco Use Prevention Education (TUPE)*

There has been an increase in the number of students ingesting treats laced with THC, the drug found in marijuana. This trend is not unique to our area. Across the country, there has been an increase in the number of kids both accidentally and intentionally consuming “pot edibles,” with lollipops, chocolate bars and brownies being the most common type.

What makes this especially dangerous is that the level of THC in edibles tends to be highly concentrated, leading to an increase in calls to Poison Control and Emergency Room visits. It is important for kids to use caution before consuming edibles from unknown sources.

Marijuana can be potentially laced with other psychoactive drugs in order to produce varied psychoactive effects to make it weigh more and potentially generate more profit.

#### Some of these other psychoactive drugs may include:

- Lead or other heavy materials
- Glass
- PCP
- Heroin
- Embalming fluid
- Laundry Detergent
- LSD
- Ketamine
- Cocaine
- Ketamine

#### What are the negative effects of marijuana and other drug-based edibles?

- Psychotic episodes
- Hallucinations
- Paranoia
- Impaired Motor Activity
- Death is possible

#### Warning signs that your child may have consumed THC or other drug-based edibles:

- Excessive sleepiness
- Dizziness
- Trouble walking
- Panic attacks
- Rapid heart rate
- Trouble breathing

#### What can you do to protect your child?

Talk to your child. Talk to younger children about only eating treats from known sources. Explain that sometimes there are ingredients in baked goods or candy that could make them sick.

If you have an older child, discuss the dangers of consuming THC infused edibles or any edibles portrayed as having any drug contents. Make sure they realize how much more concentrated the THC levels can be, which greatly increases the health risks.

#### Limit exposure and access.

Parents need to make sure their children do not have access to any marijuana infused edibles. Children typically love candy and baked goods and are unaware that they may be dangerous for them to consume.

#### Talk about the health risks of eating THC.

There has been an increase in kids both accidentally and intentionally eating THC infused foods. Marijuana and other drug-based edibles are dangerous in the hands of kids. Make sure your son or daughter understands the health risks and importance of avoiding them. If you suspect your child has ingested THC edibles, seek medical attention immediately. You also can seek help through these resources from the National Helpline and Poison Help.



SAMHSA's National Helpline – 1-800-662-HELP (4357)

According to the Fulton County Schools Student Code of Conduct, student “possession” of any substance believed to be alcohol or drugs is a Tier 3 offense with discipline ranging from up to 10 days out of school suspension up to a Discipline Hearing that can result in long term suspension or expulsion from school. Student “distribution” of any substance believed to be alcohol or drugs is a Tier 4 offense and will earn 10 days out of school suspension AND a Discipline Hearing that can result in long term suspension or expulsion from school.