

https://themercury.com/news/usd-to-hear-report-on-district-s-substance-abuse-prevention/article_8c413f16-7d88-57e6-bc25-a802a6f322f2.html

USD 383 to hear report on district's substance abuse prevention programs

Staff reports 16 hrs ago



Robinson Education Center

Photo by Jackie Dobson

[Buy Now](#)

The Manhattan-Ogden school board will hear a report Wednesday evening on the district's substance abuse prevention program. While overall drug use is down since 2000, frequent e-cigarette use has increased in the past few years.

The board meets at 6:30 p.m. at the Robinson Education Center, 2031 Poyntz Ave.

According to a 2019 Kansas Communities That Care survey of the district's 6th, 8th, 10th and 12th graders, approximately one in six students (16.7%) reported having used e-cigarettes, vaping devices or electronic hookahs at least once during their life. That figure is the same as in 2016, the first year the survey asked about use of those substances.

However, the rate of students who reported having used those substances in the 30 days prior to the survey more than tripled from 3.1% in 2017 (the earliest data available) to 9.8% in 2019.

In comparison, students who reported drinking alcohol at some point during their lives decreased from 55.6% in 2000 to 27.6% in 2019. Cigarette use decreased from 36.2% to 8.1%, and marijuana use decreased from 20.1% to 12.7% during that same time period.

The school district's substance abuse prevention program will focus on increasing opportunities for involvement, social and cognitive skills, and student recognition as buffers to keep students away from illicit substances.

Additionally, the district's social workers will implement the Life Skills training program to teach students personal management, general social and drug resistance skills.

The board will also hear a report on the district's early learning centers.