



Adventurous Thinkers • Collaborative Learners • Kind Hearted Leaders

**CREIGHTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 14
RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the United States continues to combat the effects of the coronavirus (COVID-19), it has never been more important to keep our lungs healthy;

WHEREAS, tobacco use remains a significant public health problem and impediment to health equity in Phoenix and the United States;

WHEREAS, the growing market for flavored tobacco products is undermining the nation's overall progress in reducing youth tobacco use, which is at its highest rate in 19 years;

WHEREAS, tobacco use remains the leading cause of preventable death in the U.S., killing more than 480,000 Americans each year;

WHEREAS, menthol cigarettes and other flavored tobacco products have been shown to be "starter" products for youth who begin using tobacco and these products help establish tobacco habits that can lead to long - term addiction;

WHEREAS, 27.5% of U.S. high school students and 10.5% of U.S. middle school students - over 5.3 million youth - are current e-cigarette users;

WHEREAS, from 2017 to 2019 , e-cigarette use more than doubled among high school students and more than tripled among middle school students;

WHEREAS, more than one - third of high school e-cigarette users are frequent users , an indicator of addiction;

WHEREAS, e-cigarettes are available in over 15,000 flavors including kid-friendly flavors like cotton candy, gummy bear and pink lemonade;

WHEREAS, 97% of youth e-cigarette users use flavored products and 70% of youth e-cigarette users say they use e-cigarettes "because they come in flavors I like ";

WHEREAS, eight out of ten youth who have ever used a tobacco product initiated with a flavored product;

WHEREAS, youth e-cigarette use is associated with an increased risk for cigarette smoking;

WHEREAS, the U.S. Surgeon General declared youth e-cigarette use an "epidemic" in 2018;

WHEREAS, according to the Surgeon General, nicotine can harm the parts of the adolescent brain responsible for attention, learning, mood and impulse control, and can prime the brain for addiction to other drugs;

WHEREAS, cigars are the second most popular tobacco product among youth and progress has stalled in reducing youth cigar use ; cigars are sold in over 250 flavors - like Banana Smash, Chocolate Brownie and Cherry Dynamite - that attract youth and mask the harsh taste of tobacco;

WHEREAS, each day, more than 1,900 kids in the U.S. try their first cigarette; menthol, in particular, cools and numbs the throat and reduces irritation, making menthol cigarettes an appealing option for youth who are initiating tobacco use;

WHEREAS, over half (54%) of youth smokers use menthol cigarettes compared to one-third (32%) of older adult smokers;

WHEREAS, the tobacco industry has targeted communities of color for decades with marketing for menthol cigarettes through sponsorship of community and music events , targeted magazine advertising , and retail promotions;

WHEREAS, 85 percent of all African American smokers smoke menthol cigarettes and seven out of ten African-American youth smokers smoke menthol cigarettes; each year, approximately 45,000 African Americans die from a smoking - caused illness;

WHEREAS, parents, schools , students and public health organizations, including the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network , American Lung Association, American Heart Association , Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, Arizona School Nurses Organization , Arizona Public Health Association , Boys and Girls Clubs of the Valley, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Arizona , Maricopa County Medical Society , Arizona Medical Association , Arizona Alliance of Community Health Centers and other organizations and community leaders have come together to support prohibiting the sale of ALL flavored tobacco and e-cigarette products.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF CREIGHTON SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 14 : That it hereby calls upon the City Council of the City of Phoenix to enact an ordinance to prohibit the sale of flavored tobacco and e-cigarette products within the City of Phoenix and,

Be It Further Resolved, that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the City Clerk of the City of Phoenix and to the Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids and Phoenix Flavors campaign.

Passed and adopted this 20th day of April, 2021.

CREIGHTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT No . 14

By:

Lindsey McCaleb
Governing Board President

Attested

by:

Sophia Ramirez-Governing Board Clerk

Heather Ayres-Governing Board Member

Angel Campos-Governing Board Member

Amy McSheffrey-Governing Board Member