

A Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

On behalf of the Okmulgee County Wellness Coalition, I wish to express our gratitude towards two local schools that have made significant steps in ensuring the health-safety of our counties' children. A big thanks to Beggs and Morris Public Schools whose school board voted to add electronic cigarettes (also known as e-cigs) to the prohibited list under the "24/7 Tobacco-Free School policy". The change will encourage consistent role modeling across the school campuses, and will help give parents peace of mind while their children are in the school's care.

In addition to making school properties a breathe-easy place, this addition to the existing 24/7 policy is consistent in preparing students for higher education. All state owned properties, including our state owned college education systems, are now both tobacco and "vape-free". By implementing this policy at the local school level, students are being prepared for life and success beyond High School.

The Okmulgee County Wellness Coalition would like to say "Congratulations!" and "Thank You!" to the Administrators and School Board Members of Beggs and Morris for paving the way toward improving children's health. A measure of society is how they value their children. Beggs and Morris have once again clearly demonstrated a deep concern for their children through willingness to help keep all tobacco and the targeted delivery systems out of the hands of children. The leadership of these two schools is great example for others to follow.

Once again, thank you!

Sincerely,
Bob Seebeck
Vice President, OCWC
