



12-02-22

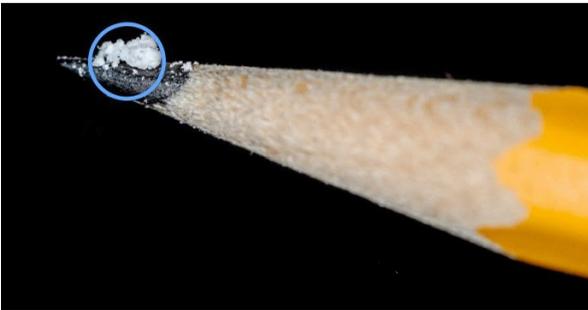
# Message to Families from the Superintendent

*Dear TUSD Families,*

As part of our ongoing commitment to the safety and wellbeing of all our students, we want to continue to make you aware of an urgent health concern, and the measures that TUSD is implementing.

## **Background:**

As you are likely aware, our nation is experiencing an ongoing drug crisis leading to a rise in overdose deaths, especially among youth ages 10-19. **Fentanyl**, a deadly synthetic opioid used for pain relief, and **100 times stronger than morphine**, is fueling these overdoses. Just 2 milligrams (photo) can be lethal. Due to its potency and low cost, drug traffickers have been mixing fentanyl with other drugs or creating counterfeit prescriptions including OxyContin®, Xanax®, and Adderall®, making it easy for a mistaken lethal dose.



Even more dismaying, **Rainbow Fentanyl** is made to look like brightly colored powder, chalk, and candies that have a specific appeal to youth. It is important to remember that **any pill (regardless of its color, shape or size) that does not come from a health care provider or pharmacist can contain fentanyl and may be deadly.**



## TUSD Safety Measures:

In alignment with the TUSD Board of Education's adoption of an [Opioid Awareness and Prevention resolution](#), TUSD has now joined leading school districts to implement a **Narcan (Naloxone) Administration Program** at our middle and high school sites. Narcan is a life-saving medication that can reverse an overdose from opioids—including heroin, fentanyl, and prescription opioid medications when given quickly after the onset of symptoms. It can restore normal breathing within 2 to 3 minutes in a person whose breath has slowed, or even stopped, as a result of opioid overdose. Narcan has no effect on someone who does not have opioids in their system.

In early November, TUSD obtained an inventory of Narcan nasal spray and implemented protocols and training for our staff to ensure safe storage and administration of Narcan in the event of a medical emergency.

## How You Can Support Our Students:

If you have not already done so, please...

- **Educate Yourself:** Use the attached information and information from [the South Bay Families Connected Opioid Awareness site](#) to learn more about this issue.
- **Talk to Your Student:** Warning students of the dangers that exist could save lives. Let them know that **no pill purchased on social media is safe.**
- **Know the Signs of an Overdose:** Fentanyl use can cause discolored skin (especially in lips and/or nails), confusion, drowsiness, dizziness, nausea, vomiting, changes in pupil size, cold or clammy skin, coma, and respiratory failure leading to death. **At the first hint of an emergency always call 911.**
- **Know that help is available:** If you are worried about a student struggling with addiction, consider calling the **Substance Abuse Service Helpline (SASH): 1-844-804-7500** or visiting our TUSD provided [Care Solace](#) website to get assistance.

If you have any questions about this topic, please reach out to your school principal.

Thank you for continuing to partner with us to keep every student safe,

Handwritten signature of Tim Stowe.

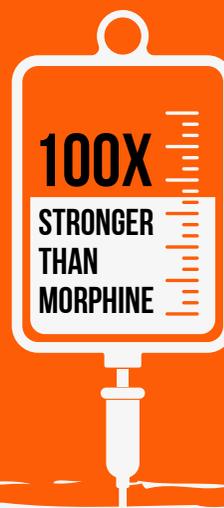
Tim Stowe  
Superintendent

## Attachments:

[Fentanyl Fact Sheet \(English\)](#)  
[Fentanyl Fact Sheet \(Spanish\)](#)

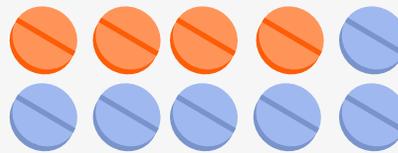
# FENTANYL: THE FACTS

Fentanyl is a potent synthetic opioid drug approved by the FDA for pain relief and anesthetic.



Fentanyl is being mixed with other drugs, such as cocaine, oxycodone, and Adderall. People are often unaware fentanyl has been added.

**4 OUT OF EVERY 10\***  
PILLS CONTAIN A POTENTIALLY  
**LETHAL DOSE**



**560% IN OVERDOSE DEATHS IN 2020  
INCREASE FUELED BY FENTANYL**

## CRIMINAL DRUG NETWORKS ARE FLOODING THE MARKET WITH FAKE PILLS LACED WITH FENTANYL.

Fake prescription pills are easily accessible and often sold on social media and e-commerce platforms making them available to anyone with a smartphone, including minors.



**AUTHENTIC**  
oxycodone  
m30 tablets\*



**FAKE**  
oxycodone  
m30 tablets\*

## WHO'S AT RISK?

**CASUAL USERS, PARTYGOERS, EXPERIMENTERS, REGULAR USERS, AND  
EVEN UNSUSPECTING BYSTANDERS WHO MAY COME INTO CONTACT WITH  
THE POWERFUL OPIOID.**

Even if substance use is the last thing you need to worry about with your kid, perhaps their awareness could save a friend.

**Talk to them today about the risks of fentanyl.**

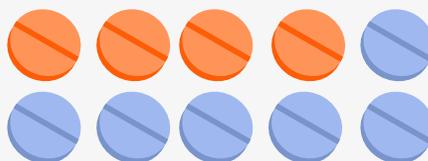
# FENTANILO: LOS HECHOS

El fentanilo es un medicamento opiode sintético aprobado por la FDA para el alivio del dolor y anestésico.



El fentanilo se está mezclando con otras drogas, tales como cocaína, oxicodona y Adderall. Las personas normalmente son inconscientes de que el fentanilo se ha añadido.

**4 DE CADA 10\***  
PASTILLAS CONTIENEN UNA DOSIS  
POTENCIALMENTE LETHAL



**560% DE INCREMENTO EN MUERTES POR SOBREDOSIS EN EL 2020 ALIMENTADAS POR EL FENTANILO**

**LAS REDES CRIMINALES DE MEDICAMENTOS ESTAN INUNDANDO EL MERCADO CON PASTILLAS FALSAS MEZCLADAS CON FENTANILO.**

Las recetas médicas falsas para pastillas se consiguen fácilmente y se venden seguido en las plataformas de redes sociales y de e-commerce lo que las hacen disponibles para todos con un teléfono inteligente incluyendo menores.



**AUTÉNTICAS**  
oxicodona  
tabletas m30\*



**FALSAS**  
oxicodona  
tabletas m30\*

**¿QUIÉN ESTÁ EN RIESGO?**

**CONSUMIDORES CASUALES, FIESTEROS, EXPERIMENTADORES, CONSUMIDORES HABITUALES, E INCLUSO PERSONAS AJENAS DESPREVENIDAS QUE PUEDEN ENTRAR EN CONTACTO CON EL PODEROSO OPIOIDE.**

Incluso si el uso de sustancias es de lo último que necesitas preocuparte con tu niño, quizás su conocimiento pueda salvar a un amigo.

**Habla con ellos el día de hoy sobre los riesgos del fentanilo.**