

Message from the Superintendent  
March 2, 2023

#### Hays CISD Fentanyl Update & New Video

Dear Hays CISD Family,

Fentanyl continues to be a real and present threat to our community and communities across the nation. This year, we have had five students lose their lives to fentanyl poisonings. Our fight continues.

While we have not had to administer NARCAN to anyone suspected of overdosing on campus this semester; we have had three students that we are aware of since early January who have overdosed on a fentanyl-laced pill at home. Fortunately, all three of these students were able to recover with emergency medical intervention.

Last Thursday, we hosted a roundtable discussion at Johnson High School with United States Senator John Cornyn. We were fortunate to have some of our students, our local law enforcement leaders, and our district director of student health services at the table. Additionally, we were joined by the parents of two of our students who died this year because of fentanyl poisoning. You met Kevin McConville's parents in our very first Fighting Fentanyl video. In our most recent video posted online at: <https://www.hayscisd.net/fentanylvideos>, you meet Noah Rodriguez's parents and learn about his story.

It is our hope that by engaging local, state, and national policymakers who have taken an interest in fighting fentanyl, we can and will make a difference.

We remain committed to continuing the fentanyl conversation and doing everything within our power to be part of the solution to this growing emergency. The national slogan in the fight against fentanyl is, "One Pill Can Kill." It is sadly so very true. But also remember – one person, one conversation, one outreach can also save a life. I am proud of you, our district family, and the entire community for being leaders in talking about the dangers of fentanyl and addressing this crisis head-on.

Sincerely,  
Eric