Marijuana Use Impacts Teachers, Administrators and Students

**Lower Grades:** Students who smoke marijuana tend to get lower grades.

**Drop-out Rates:** Students who use marijuana before age 15 are 3X more likely to leave school by age 16.

**Poor Judgment:** It causes changes to a person’s sense of judgment that can lead to risky behaviors.

**Accidents:** Sense of time and coordination are altered, raising the risk of accidents in sports or car crashes.

- A recent study found that those who used cannabis heavily in their teens and continued through adulthood showed a permanent drop in IQ of 8 points.
- Marijuana continues to negatively affect attention span, memory, learning, and intelligence after the intoxicating effects of the drug have subsided.
- Youth who are persistent cannabis users have significantly more memory and attention problems; easily getting distracted, misplacing things, forgetting to keep appointments, or returning calls.
- Youth with an average grade of D or below were four times more likely to have used marijuana in the past year than youth with an average grade of A.

**An Impact on Learning**
Almost 25% of 12th grade students report using the drug marijuana in the past 30 days, which is a sign of more frequent use.

**Impact on Youth Mental Health**
Marijuana use can worsen depression, leading to more serious mental illnesses such psychosis, schizophrenia, anxiety, and even suicide.

**THC Levels and Increased Potency**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In 1970</th>
<th>3%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Smoked</strong></td>
<td>From 15% to 30%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Oils</strong></td>
<td>Vaped or in food From 50% to 80%</td>
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Source: NIDA and Report for the American Chemical Society.

- Marijuana affects brain development and is associated with poorer academic performance.

**Addiction**

- 17% of youth who start using marijuana in their teens, will become dependent upon it.
- 25% to 50% of those who smoke marijuana daily are more likely to become dependent upon it.