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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Millions of middle and high school students are now vaping. Are your kids? It's time to have the vaping talk. Free class for adults in Wood River Valley.

WOOD RIVER VALLEY- Vaping. E-cigarettes. Juuling. Did you know they're all the same thing? And they come in quite a few disguises these days. E-cigarette companies are now selling vape devices that are camouflaged as hoodie drawstrings, flash drives, battery chargers and pens. South Central Public Health District (SCPHD) is helping parents and teachers with a new class focusing on the latest research on vaping, the history of these devices, and the risks e-cigarettes bring our youth.

"We are trying to help educate parents and teachers about the newest devices, what chemicals are in them, and how dangerous they may be," said Cody Orchard, SCPHD Health Education Specialist. "We want to give parents the right tools to protect their kids."

A recent survey from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) shows 3.6 million middle and high school students are now using e-cigarettes in the United States. This is an increase of more than 1.5 million students since last year.

The increased popularity of e-cigarettes among our youth raise concerns about early addiction, the effect of nicotine exposure on developing brains, exposure to harmful chemicals, and a potential transition over to traditional cigarettes.

Classes are free and open to anyone over the age of 18 years old:

• BCSD Community Campus 1050 Fox Acres Road, Hailey Tuesday, March 5th 6:30 p.m.

For more information about tobacco cessation classes or to schedule a class, please visit <u>phd5.idaho.gov/tobacco</u>, to register, or contact Cody Orchard at (208) 737-5968.