

Fairfield Warde High School

755 Melville Avenue • Fairfield, Connecticut 06825 • (203) 255-8449 • FAX (203) 255-8212

David M. Ebling
Headmaster
Caryn F. Campbell
Director, Student Services
Kurt A. Simonsen
Fitts Housemaster
Steven L. Fekete
Townsend Housemaster
Deirdra A. Preis
Pequot Housemaster
Seth C. Fry
Athletic Director

October 14, 2016

Dear Parents and Guardians of 9th Graders:

Our young people are at risk. Spend an evening with your student and lower that risk!

The latest student survey conducted by RYASAP tells us that our collaborative efforts to educate students about the dangers of underage drinking are beginning to make a difference. Students report a decrease in alcohol use by 9th graders, from 28% using in 2012 to 18% in 2014. We believe that one of the factors in this decrease is the 9th Grade Forum on Underage Drinking and Risky Behavior, an educational event co-sponsored with the FWHS PTA.

A committed group of parents and high school educators have worked together to plan this important event. The 9th Grade Forum on Underage Drinking and Risky Behavior, as an effort to provide parents and students with information that will address this serious problem in our community. The program will be presented at both public high schools. It will feature representatives from the law enforcement and medical communities, counselors, and people recovering from consequences caused by alcohol and substance abuse.

Details for the FWHS program for students and parents is as follows:

- **Audience:** All 9th Grade Students and Parents
- **Date:** November 2, 2016
- **Time:** 7:00 – 8:30 PM
- **Location:** FWHS Auditorium

Young people are incessantly confronted with images and advertising messages, peer pressure, and older role models that make the battle against underage drinking very, very challenging. Working together is the only way we stand a chance in this battle for the health and well-being of our teens. We are urging you to attend the 9th Grade Forum on Underage Drinking with your sons and daughters. The survey results show that when young people perceive their parents disapprove of underage drinking, they make better decisions about drinking. Your presence at the Forum will tell your kids how much you care about them and you will learn some very important information that will help you keep them safe. Please make every effort to attend.

The PTA will provide a special prize to homerooms in each house with the best attendance at the Forum.

Join with us in sending a healthy message to our students and show your kids how much you care. Come to the 9th Grade Forum – it's that important.

Sincerely,

David M. Ebling
Headmaster