



# LANE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

West Allis-West Milwaukee School District

1300 South 109th Street · West Allis · Wisconsin · 53214

(414) 329-6600 · Fax (414) 259-0306

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September 7th, 2017

Lane Intermediate Community,

The average age teen boys first try alcohol is age 11, for girls it's 13. Average first use of marijuana is 14 years old. Opioids and Heroin are claiming more and more lives at every age as the epidemic worsens.

Teens who drink before the age of 15 are 5 times more likely to develop alcohol dependence or abuse later in life than those who begin drinking at or after the legal age of 21. Teens who began using marijuana at the age of 16 or younger are more likely to show signs of arrested brain development in the prefrontal cortex, the part of the brain responsible for judgment, reasoning and complex thinking.

In response to these facts, the WAWM School District, the WAWM Community Coalition and the WAWM Heroin/Opiate Task Force have teamed up to make students and their families aware of the dangers of early alcohol or drug use and to offer them support if they or their loved ones are suffering from the effects of alcohol, marijuana or other drugs.

We are calling this program, Safe and Supported. During the week of 9/11-9/15 Intermediate and High School students will have the opportunity to learn about a wide range of safety topics ranging from the effects and the consequences of alcohol and drug use to mental health concerns to safely navigating social media. Presenters are school and district staff and members of the WAWM Heroin/Opiate Task Force.

There will be a short question and answer session. Students will also be asked to complete a brief evaluation to help WAWM School District improve the content of the programming and to let us know if they are experiencing the need to talk to a school professional about any struggles they or someone they know and care about might be having.

*Lane Intermediate will be hosting the Safe and Supported program Tuesday, September 12th. The Safe and Supported Program will last approximately one class period. We believe the information your child will receive during this time is very important for their health, safety and well-being.*



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*However, it is up to you. If you do not want your child(ren) to attend the program, please contact your son or daughter's school counselor and ask that they be opted out. This can be done by contacting the Lane Intermediate Office at 414-329-6610.*

On 9/18, a community-wide event will take place at Nathan Hale High School from 6-8 pm. This event will include a number of different safety topics from "rescue breathing" and naran administration to internet/social media safety and human trafficking. The panel of experts will consist of representatives from WA Police and Fire Departments and the Medical Examiner's Office. A Physician and an FBI Special Agent will also be on the panel.

The evening will also include tours of the KIP (Knowledge is Power) Room which is a teen replica room that reveals popular hiding places for drugs and alcohol.

*Parents who attend will be offered an incentive that will benefit their child(ren): for Lane Intermediate students it will be free attendance and drink at the October Glow Dance.*

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact Lane Intermediate at 414-329-6610.

Sincerely,

The Lane Intermediate Student Service Team

Mr. Antholine

Mrs. Kayzar

Mrs. Skonecki

Mr. Malin

Mrs. Piotrowski