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March 26, 2018

CHS Parents:

Two years ago, our Site Based Management Team spearheaded a partnership with the Erie County Council for the Prevention of Alcohol and Substance Abuse (ECCPASA). This partnership came out of an interest in supporting our students who may be facing pressures to turn to alcohol, drugs or other destructive behaviors. Although we have a progressive health education curriculum in grades seven and nine, our school community wanted to expand substance abuse prevention to all grade levels and asked parents to take a more proactive role in keeping students from engaging in harmful behaviors.

This spring, ECCPASA educators will once again visit social studies classrooms in grades where we do not have health education courses in order to provide students with important information and strategies when it comes to pressure to use alcohol and drugs. We have asked ECCPASA to place additional focus on the dangers of "vaping" as well as coping skills to deal with anxiety and to strengthen mindfulness.

You can learn more about ECCPASA at www.ECCPASA.org. I would like to thank our school social worker, Mrs. Vinkle, for once again organizing this training for our students. If you have questions about these sessions, you can contact Mrs. Vinkle at jnvinkle@buffaloschools.org or ECCPASA Executive Director, and CHS parent, Robin Mann at robin@eccpasa.org.

We once again ask all CHS parents to redouble their commitment to reduce the possibilities of students finding themselves in dangerous situations during these years when they are still forming the cognitive connections that enable them to make sound and safe decisions. Children are endangered by underage house parties and underage drinking. Concerned adults, teachers, students and friends can call 24 hours a day in Erie County to report planned underage drinking parties; underage drinking parties in progress or other activities that may be harmful to the health, safety and welfare of young people. The tip line (1-800-851-1932) is ANONYMOUS, CONFIDENTIAL and free. Erie County now has a "Social Host Law" that holds adults accountable for allowing minors to drink.

Thank you for supporting our goal of healthy and safe students at CHS!

Sincerely,

William A. Kresse, Ph.D.

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Principal

