

City of Newton



HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT  
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**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Dear Colleague,

I am writing to ask for your help in having your class attend a substance use prevention program presented by FCD Prevention Works and sponsored by the City of Newton Health and Human Services Department and Newton South High School with Brian Deleskey, the Intervention/Prevention Counselor at NSHS. The program will occur during the school day on:

**Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup>**  
**Healthy Decision Making &**  
**When Alcohol and Other Drugs Become a Problem**  
**B4 Block 8:40-9:55AM**  
**AND**  
**C4 Block 11:10-12:25PM**

**Program Specifics:**

The program will focus on

- Healthy decision making
- When alcohol and other drugs become a problem
- Marijuana

**Classes will be signed up on a first come, first served basis and we expect to run out of room so contact Brian Deleskey ASAP at [brian\\_deleskey@newton.k12.ma.us](mailto:brian_deleskey@newton.k12.ma.us) to sign up your classes.**

We realize the school day is crunched and there are many competing demands on class time, but I hope your will share this priority. The program is open to everyone although we especially encourage upperclassmen to attend as this population tends to be more likely to experiment and also needs this critical information to make informed decisions after leaving home.

For more information on substance abuse in Newton and how it is being addressed please see [www.newtonma.gov/newtonpath](http://www.newtonma.gov/newtonpath). Our students are facing new risks in this era of the opioid crisis and we want to do everything possible to prevent the tragedy of addiction among our young people. Thank you for your support.

Deborah Youngblood  
Health and Human Services Commissioner  
City of Newton

P.S.

In addition to the school day program, there will be a corresponding community night event hosted as a follow-up to these assemblies.

**Tuesday, April 25<sup>th</sup>**  
**The Highs and Lows:**  
**A judgment free conversation among teens and parents**  
**about the risks and realities of drug use in today's society**  
**7-9pm**  
**Newton South High School**  
**140 Brandeis Road, Newton Centre, MA**

**Program Specifics:**

This event will build off the school assemblies and include:

- An FDC Prevention Works' Parent Student Roundtable experience
- Debrief meeting with students and parents about next prevention steps

We hope you will also encourage your students to attend this evening program and consider whether you might be able to give them an incentive to go, such as giving no homework that night, extra credit for attending and/or an extra credit assignment related to their attendance etc. We appreciate any support you can give in helping students prioritize this event.