

School Dance & After-Dance Party Guidelines

In response to parent/guardian and student requests for guidance and out of concern for the health and safety of our students, we have put together the following guidelines:

Students,

- Most students go to school dances in groups, not as couples. You should not feel pressure to find a date for a dance.
- However, if you are going to ask someone to attend a dance with you, do so discreetly (“public asks” often backfire and create ill will among peers).
- Carpool to the dance rather than hiring limos or buses.
- During the dance as well as on your way to and from campus, adhere to all school rules. Failure to do so can result in disciplinary action. Check out the JBS Family Handbook if you have any questions!

Parents and Guardians,

Please do not host large after-dance parties. If you choose to host *smaller* gatherings, we request that you follow these guidelines:

Size & Time:

- An after-party should not overlap with the school function. Students, teachers and parents work hard to plan these events, and it is dispiriting when students leave early.
- Do not host sleepovers, and make sure guests leave in time to make curfew.
- Keep numbers manageable.
 - Make a guest list in advance; never invite an entire class.
 - E-mail formal invitations to the invited students and their parents well in advance of the event. Include party rules and expectations, making it clear that efforts to limit the invitation list are for safety purposes, not to be exclusive. Include your cell phone number and encourage parents to contact you if they have questions or concerns.

Chaperoning:

- Have enough chaperones to assure the health and safety of your guests.
 - Keep the ratio of adults to students at 1:7, or lower.
 - And even for a very small party, at least two adults should be present in case one adult needs to leave in an emergency.
- When students arrive, collect their car keys and only return them at the end of the evening. If students ask to go to their car or access a bag or purse, you or another chaperone should accompany them.
- Students should remain inside your home in an easily monitored space at all times. Be present and visible, making sure to circulate every 15 minutes or so.
- Once students leave, they should not be allowed to return.

Alcohol/Illegal Substances:

- Do not serve alcohol or other illegal substances to students, and lock up any liquor in your home prior to the after-party.
- Do not allow students to bring alcohol or other illegal substances into your home. An easy way to enforce this is by not allowing guests to bring bags, backpacks, drinks or other containers into your home.
- However, if you suspect alcohol poisoning, call 911 immediately.