



HARRISON HIGH SCHOOL
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Dear Harrison Families,

Harrison High School offers the Student Assistance/Project SUCCESS Program. This program is funded by the NYS Office of Addiction Services and Supports through the Westchester County Department of Community Mental Health, the school district, and by corporate and private donations. The program provides alcohol, nicotine, vaping, and other drug prevention activities and counseling for students including support for students and families experiencing bullying situations, and/or problem gambling.

Mrs. Dana McCarthy will be continuing as the Student Assistance Counselor at Harrison High School. She will be working full time at the high school and will have evening hours available to see parents and meet with community groups. Mrs. McCarthy is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker with experience working with adolescents and specialized training in prevention and early intervention strategies with adolescents at risk of having substance or gambling related problems. She is paid and supervised by Student Assistance Services Corporation and the school.

Mrs. McCarthy will be meeting with students individually and in small groups for education and prevention activities to correct erroneous perceptions about substance use, to support social and emotional health, and to teach students skills to identify and resist social and situational pressures to use substances or participate in other unhealthy behaviors. Parent meetings corresponding to our prevention program will also be offered. Mrs. McCarthy will be available to see students who are using substances, vaping, gambling or have personal, peer, school, or family issues that could increase their risk of using substances, developing mental health problems, and/or being involved in bullying situations.

Mrs. McCarthy will also provide multi-session educational programs for students who are vaping or under the influence of substances at school or school sponsored activities. When students are not in the school building, she will provide all program services remotely including confidential counseling through telepractice.

If you would like to speak to Mrs. McCarthy about your child or another student, please call her directly at (914) 630-3145. All calls will be confidential.

Sincerely,

Ms. Kimberly Beukema

Principal

Safety Tips from Student Assistance Services:

- The Surgeon General declared adolescent vaping an epidemic, and Westchester is not immune. Recent data indicate that almost all youth who vape are using products containing nicotine or THC concentrates. All products that are vaped carry risks related to lung, heart, and gum health.
- Monitor the use and storage of all prescription and non prescription medications in your home to reduce misuse by youth. Unused medications can be returned at the White Plains Police Department, 77 South Lexington Avenue, White Plains, NY 10601, 914-422-6400; the Rye Brook Police Department, 938 King Street, Rye Brook, NY 10573, 914-939-1020; Rye City Police Department, 21 McCullough Place, Rye, NY 10580, 914-967-1234; or the Port Chester Police Department, 350 North Main Street #1, Port Chester, NY 10573, 914-939-1000.