



**HARRISON HIGH SCHOOL**  
**255 UNION AVENUE**  
**HARRISON, NEW YORK 10528**



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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 will provide alcohol, nicotine, vaping, and other drug prevention activities and counseling for students including support for students and families experiencing bullying situations, and/or problem gaming or gambling. It is anticipated that this combination of services will accomplish the following goals:

1. prevent substance use and social and emotional problems among students
2. reduce the incidence of substance use and social emotional problems among students
3. improve school performance and attitudes toward school, and support social emotional skill development

Ms. Dana McCarthy is 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 meet with parents and community groups. Ms. 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, gaming or gambling related problems. She is being paid and supervised by Student Assistance Services Corporation and the school.

Ms. 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. She will also provide multi-session educational programs for students who are vaping or under the influence of substances at school or school sponsored activities. Parent meetings corresponding to our prevention program will also be offered. Ms. McCarthy will be available to see students who are using substances, vaping, gambling or having 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. If you would like to speak to the Student Assistance Counselor about your child or another student, please call her directly at (914) 630-3145. All calls will be confidential.

We are hopeful these programs will show promising results. Data will be collected to assess the overall effectiveness of the program in preventing and reducing risk factors for alcohol, nicotine, other drug use, mental health problems, and problem gambling.

Please feel free to call me if you have any questions about the program.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Beukema  
Principal

Safety Tips: 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. Also, please monitor the use and storage of all prescription and nonprescription 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.