

ANDERSON HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



A Recognized School of Excellence

7560 Forest Road, Cincinnati, OH 45255

February, 2001

Parent Involvement in Drug Prevention

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The number one problem in every secondary school in the country is student use of alcohol and other drugs. Every time we survey students ... every time we survey parents ... every time we survey teachers, they tell us that. Among students in grades 7 through 12 it is a huge problem and in some schools it is in epidemic proportions.

Schools can not lick the problem on their own. Schools need help and they are in dire need of help from parents.

Why parents? The reality is that parents are the best teachers. Parents are sometimes duped into believing that they have less and less influence on their children and teens. The fact is that parents can and do make the difference in a child's life.

In a recent study of 47,000 secondary students, conducted by the Coalition for a Drug Free Greater Cincinnati, parents received high marks from their children on the parent's ability to reduce teen use of alcohol and other drugs. In the study, the students said that there is a direct effect of parenting on reduced drug use:

- Parents who are role models...
- Parent who set rules...
- Parents who talk about drugs...
- Parents who get their kids to attend church...

... are able to lower the percentage of alcohol/drug users.

We need everyone's help to lower the number of teens who are using. We have an intense need to reach every parent in our community. The bottom line may be that "Parents may be the only hope we have to reduce the use of alcohol/drugs among teenagers."

Teenagers doing drugs is all about choices ... kids make the choice but the reality is that parents can influence the choice. Call me at 232-2772 if you want to talk further about this issue.

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Mike Hall".

Michael D. Hall
Principal