

# Facts:

- 40 percent of teens who started drinking at age 13 or younger developed alcohol dependence later in life. Ten percent of teens who began drinking after the age of 17 developed dependence
- 20 percent of 8th graders report that they have tried marijuana
- Teens desire to experiment in order to feel good while wanting to follow the crowd to fit in.\*

Parents and families face one of the most difficult battles in today's society – that of raising drug free children. Communication is one of the most powerful tools we have at our disposal in keeping our kids off drugs. Yet for some reason, it is the most feared, and is seldom used. Let us help you learn “what to say” and “what signs you need to look for”.

## Please come to the Middle School PTA “Parent Information Night”

When: Wednesday, October 17

Time: 6:30 pm

Where: Middle School Little Theatre

We will have two speakers: A representative of Kids Escaping Drugs and a Real-Life Testimonial from a regular parent just like you and I. They will help to give us the information we need to prevent our children from substance experimentation. They will teach us the signs and symptoms to look for and what is trending now.

We as parents, educators, and supportive organizations, must set the tone, set the standards, and set the societal norm. We must talk to our children on a continuing basis about the dangers of drugs, and be active participants in their lives. Together we can change the face of drug addiction in our communities.

We really hope that you will make the time to join us as we try to stay one-step ahead. Please feel free to contact me at any time if you have questions or concerns. As a parent, I'm looking forward to a very informative night and hope to see you there.

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*\*Source: National Institute of Drug Abuse website*