

**WARWICK** VALLEY  
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

# Drug & Alcohol Awareness & Prevention

Programs and plans in our schools

# A Safe Place for Learning

Learning is most effective when schools provide a safe and welcoming environment.

*“The use of alcohol, tobacco, and other illegal drugs undermines students’ ability to achieve success academically. Substance abuse is associated with other harmful behaviors, and is incompatible with a school climate of respect, safety, and support for learning.”*

- National Center on Safe Supportive Learning Environments

The Warwick Valley Central School District is committed to providing a safe and welcoming learning environment for all of our students, our faculty, and staff.

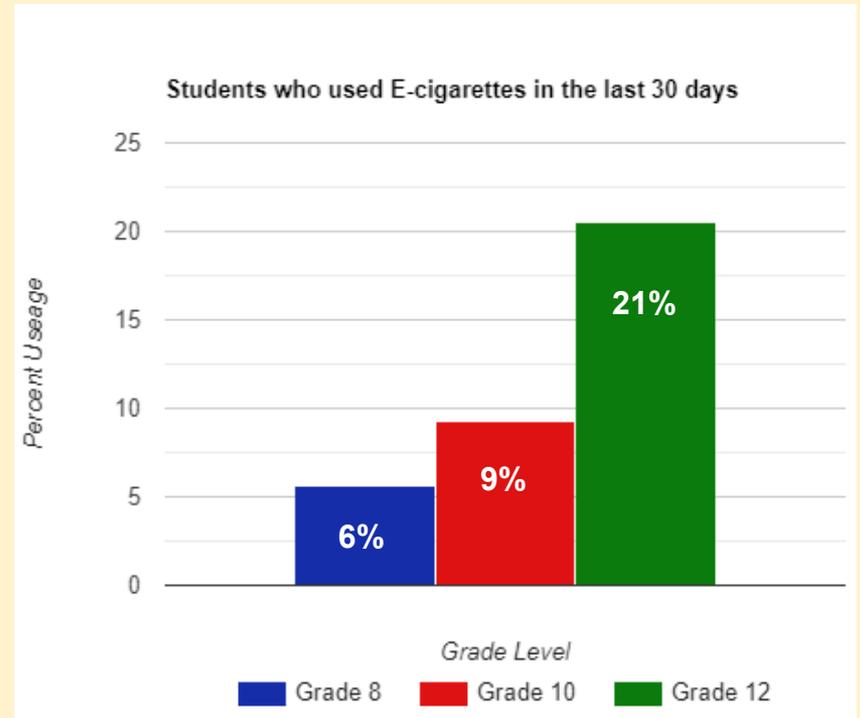


## 2020-21 Pride Surveys Report (WVCSD)

The following graphs depict the percentage of Warwick students who reported using various substances “in the past 30 days” during a 2020-21 survey by Pride Surveys. Results presented by grade level.

### Students who used E-cigarettes in the last 30 days.

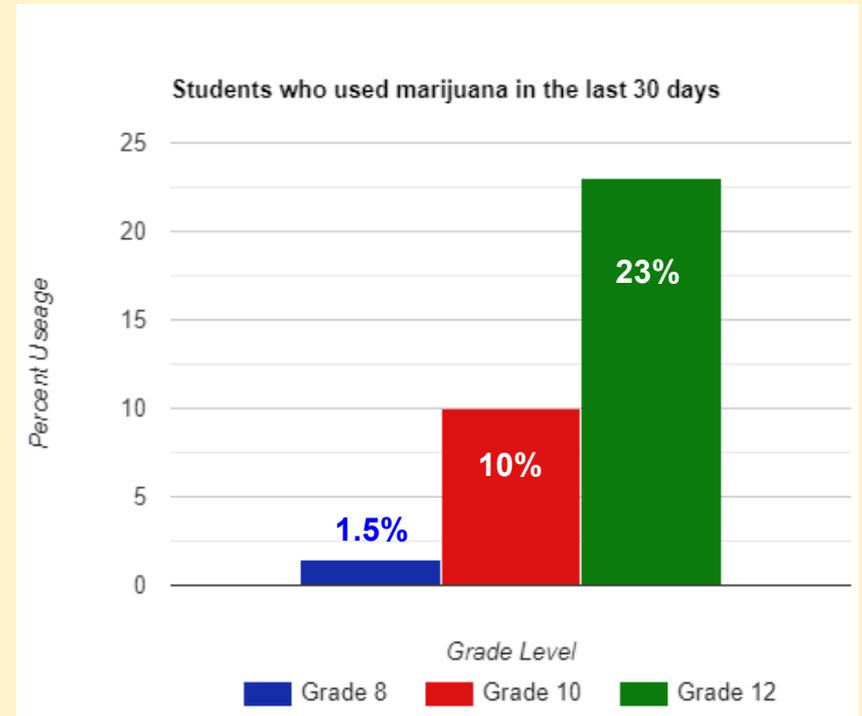
- Grade 8: 6%
- Grade 10: 9%
- Grade 12: 21%



# 2020-21 Pride Surveys Report (WVCSD)

## Students who used marijuana in the last 30 days.

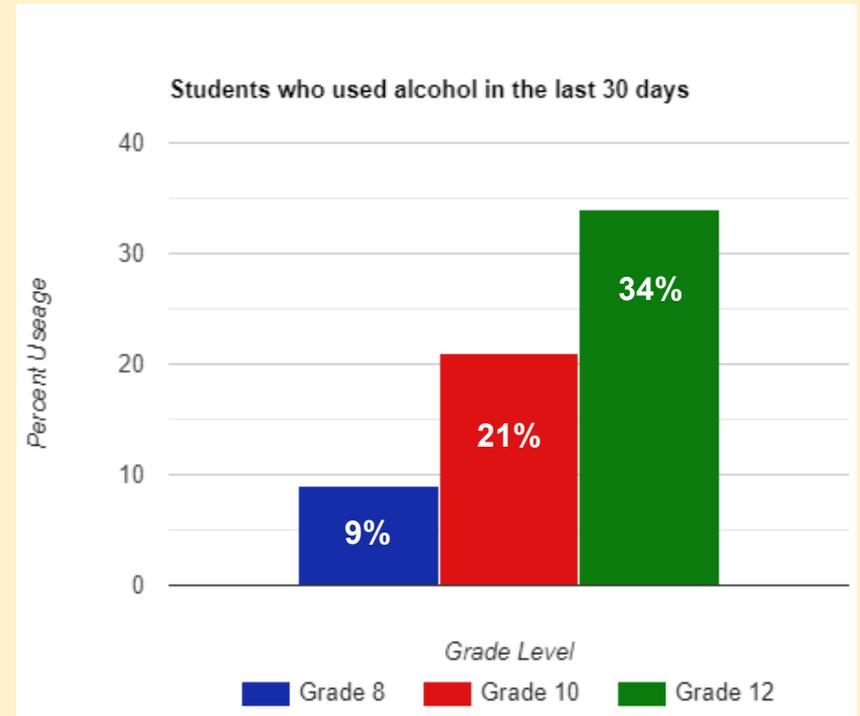
- Grade 8: 1.5%
- Grade 10: 10%
- Grade 12: 23%



# 2020-21 Pride Surveys Report (WVCSD)

## Students who used alcohol in the last 30 days.

- Grade 8: 9%
- Grade 10: 21%
- Grade 12: 34%



# School Resource Officers and Security

- 4 full-time Town of Warwick PD officers.
- We have also added a fifth SRO who will work a flexible schedule, allowing for broader security coverage of evening and weekend school events.
- Pushing into elementary classrooms.
- 14 security guards on staff.
- Junior Police Academy.
- Considering revised curriculum for DARE program for SROs to use to complement elementary education.



# Teacher Training and In-School Support

- **Professional Development**  
Regular educator training sessions on recognizing and preventing drug use, supporting children at risk.
- **Crisis Teams**  
Dedicated team of psychologists, counselors, nurses, social workers, guidance staff trained for crises.
- **Wellness Committee**  
Team of professionals supporting all policies and practices pertaining to student and faculty health and well-being.
- **Tech Monitoring**  
Student activity on district-owned Chromebooks is monitored for anything related to drugs, self-harm, dangerous behaviors.



# Teacher Training and In-School Support

- **Health Classes**

Students take a class including a unit on the dangers of drugs, peer pressure, and decision making in middle school and high school.

- **Breathalyzer Checks**

Students undergo a breathalyzer check at high school dances to help deter underage drinking.



# High School and Middle School Prevention Coalition

Much of the awareness and prevention programming we offer, especially our public events, are done in partnership with the Warwick Valley Prevention Coalition, including:

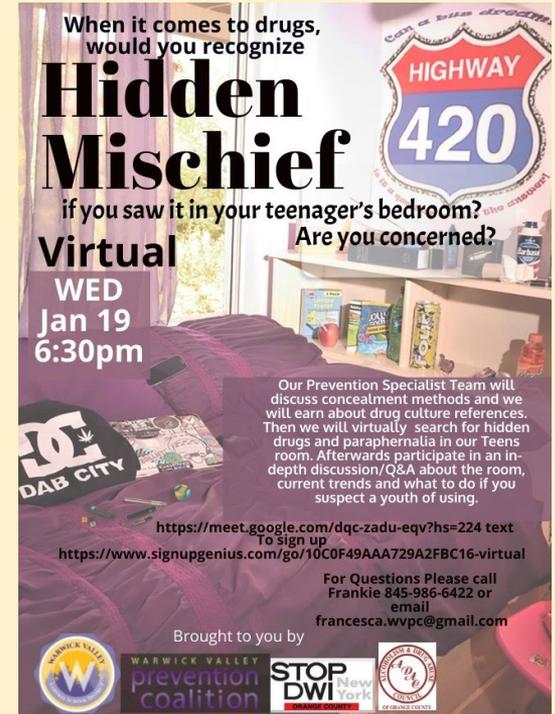
- **Community Marijuana Forum**

Annual informational community forum on the increased accessibility school-aged children have to cannabis and cannabis products, as well as the growing presence of cannabis marketing.

- **Hidden Mischief**

Lets parents search a “teen bedroom” for signs of substance use or other self-harming behaviors.

Additional community partners: Orange County ADAC and Stop DWI.



When it comes to drugs,  
would you recognize

# Hidden Mischief

if you saw it in your teenager's bedroom?  
Are you concerned?

**Virtual**  
WED  
Jan 19  
6:30pm

Our Prevention Specialist Team will discuss concealment methods and we will learn about drug culture references. Then we will virtually search for hidden drugs and paraphernalia in our Teens room. Afterwards participate in an in-depth discussion/Q&A about the room, current trends and what to do if you suspect a youth of using.

<https://meet.google.com/dqc-zadu-eqv?hs=224> text  
To sign up  
<https://www.signnupgenius.com/go/10C0F49AAA729A2FBC16-virtual>

For Questions Please call  
Frankie 845-986-6422 or  
email  
[francesca.wvpc@gmail.com](mailto:francesca.wvpc@gmail.com)

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# Red Ribbon Week

America's largest and longest-running annual drug-use prevention campaign, Warwick has participated every October since the program's inception!

## Trunk or Treat

Safe trick-or-treating event in the High School parking lot receives enthusiastic participation and appreciation from local organizations and community members.

## 2023-2024 Red Ribbon Host

WVCSD looking forward to hosting the countywide launch event for Red Ribbon Week 2023-2024.



# Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD)

- **SADD**

Active Middle School and High School clubs bring awareness to sound decision making in all types of potential situations, from the classroom to the car, playing field to party. SADD collaborates semiannually with local law enforcement and emergency responders to stage a mock car crash.

- **Contract for Life**

Students and parents sign an agreement - parents agree to pick up the student with no questions asked if the student is in an unsafe situation.

- **High School requirements for teen drivers**

Juniors and seniors must attend a 90-minute driver awareness forum in order to receive a permit to drive to school.





## Coming in 2022-2023... New Partner Organizations

- **Mallory's Army**

Coming in 2022-2023, promoting kindness among students, and uniting participants in an effort to “Blue Out Bullying.”

- **Sweetheart & Heroes**

Spot the five “Bully Buttons” that combine to form a call to action against bullying and apathy.

Aspects of bullying, such as peer pressure, can increase the likelihood of making poor choices when it comes to drugs and alcohol. These programs approach prevention by addressing bullying and the role it can play in decision making.



**SWEETHEARTS &  
HEROES**



# Additional Measures

- **High School and Middle School Codes of Conduct**

Both the High School and Middle School are exploring areas in each school's Code of Conduct that may be improved to help address issues around drug and alcohol use, accessibility, and awareness.

- **Teen Intervene**

Principal has discretion to offer a student and family free counseling services, rather than strict consequences, while also ensuring the school is maintaining high standards of conduct.

- **Vape Educate**

School gives counseling and education on youth vaping, a growing national problem.

- **Professional Development**

Always ongoing. Summer session with local law enforcement on noticing warning signs and what to look and listen for when it comes to recognizing drug and alcohol-related logos, symbolism, packaging, and language.

- **Canine Searches**

We will be returning to the practice of having unannounced K-9 searches of bags and lockers at the High School, a practice that was paused during the pandemic while lockers were out of use.



# DARE and Special Presentations

- **DARE Curriculum**

Considering revised curriculum for DARE program for SROs to use to complement elementary education.

- **Quarterly/Monthly Assemblies**

Programs at the High School and Middle School addressing social-emotional, drug prevention topics.

- **Peer-to-Peer Recruitment**

Our musicians, artists and scholar-athletes from the high school will visit 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students to discuss the fun and opportunities that come with being a scholar-athlete, and why staying drug-free is key.



We are always identifying more opportunities for peer mentoring opportunities, so students can promote their message of drug and alcohol awareness/abstention to their classmates.

# More to come. Thank you.

Thank you to our district families for their continued support and assistance in helping us confront this issue. We appreciate their partnership in such an important endeavor.

We will continue to keep the Board and the community informed and seek input as our drug and alcohol prevention plans and initiatives evolve.

The 2022-2023 school year begins on September 6.

When students arrive, we want them to know that Warwick Valley schools are, and always will be, a safe place for learning.

