



January 7, 2025

Dear parents,

Please read this letter in its entirety. Every year we hear of at least one horrific automobile crash that takes the lives of young drivers because someone chose to drive distracted or under the influence of an illicit substance. To prevent these tragedies, CAPE, Dutchess County District Attorney's Office, and Dutchess County Stop DWI have partnered with local high schools to host the program, *"Teen Driving; A Family Affair."* **This is a MANDATORY program for students who are applying for a parking permit to park on school campus (school year 2025-2026),** and parents/guardians who play such a crucial role in their teen's safe driving.

If you wish for your child to be able to drive to school and park on the school campus, you and your student driver **MUST** attend. Please see attached schedule; the program is 7:00pm-8:15 pm, please plan to arrive at 6:30pm for registration. The program begins promptly at 7:00 p.m.

Please note that all students **must** be accompanied by their parent/guardian. No student shall be permitted to enter the program without their parent/guardian present. No exceptions. During this program, parents and students will hear four different perspectives; legal, medical, insurance and victim; this will serve to inform and illustrate the importance of responsible choices and decision-making when it comes to driving. Due to the sensitive nature of the information, and the comfort of our guest speakers, children under the age of 12 will not be permitted.

If students are unable to attend their school's scheduled program, they are welcome to attend at a neighboring school. (With the exception of Our Lady of Lourdes).

Please direct all your questions to your school's main office.

Best regards,

Dora Celestino

Community Prevention Educator
Council on Addiction Prevention & Education of Dutchess County

Where Prevention and Recovery Create Hope For Our Future