



Dear Parents:

If you now have, or soon will have, a teenage driver in your home, this announcement is sure to be of interest.

Every year, we hear of at least one horrific accident that takes the lives of teens and other young drivers because someone chose to drink and drive. We know that most of the alcohol-related fatalities occur between the ages of 16 – 21. Roy C. Ketcham High School and the Council of Addiction Prevention and Education (CAPE) of Dutchess County have joined together in an effort to prevent these tragedies that needlessly take the lives of our children.

On the evening of **April 4th, 2017**, Roy C. Ketcham High School and the Council will host the program, “Teen Driving – a Family Affair,” for students and their families. This is **mandatory for students who are applying for School Parking Permits**, and parents who play such a crucial role in their teen’s safe driving. **Please plan to arrive by 6:15 for registration, so that we can begin the program promptly at 7:00.** If you attended this program, last year, with your teen you do not need to re-attend this year.

During this program, people who have been victims of drunk driving – whose lives have been forever changed by someone’s decision to get behind the wheel of a car after drinking or using some other drug – will share their compelling stories and reinforce every warning you’ve ever given, every message issued by teachers, and every public service announcement seen on television.

You and your teen will leave the program with your own copy of “Our Family’s Policy on Drinking & Driving”, a Contract to be signed by you and your teen driver(s), and the comfort of knowing your child and your family are better prepared to deal with the challenges ahead.

In addition, because so many parents will be there, we will have a representative from the DA’s office and from an insurance company to talk about the legal and liability consequences of underage drinking – for you and your teen.

If you want your child to be able to drive to school, you and your student driver need to attend this event. If you cannot attend the date scheduled, you may attend at another school. You will find the alternative dates attached to this letter. We ask that you please not bring any children under the age of 12 years old with you since the material presented is not appropriate for them

**INFORMATION REGARDING ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMS
TO YOUR SCHOOL'S "TEEN DRIVING – A FAMILY AFFAIR"**

If you have scheduling conflicts regarding attendance at the parking permit program, "Teen Driving – A Family Affair," at your home school, you may attend the program at another school. Please be advised that **both the teen driver and his/her parent(s) must attend**. There is no need to pre-register, you will register that night at 6:30pm.
(6:15pm at Arlington, John Jay and Roy C. Ketcham)

**The schedule for the "TEEN DRIVING – A FAMILY AFFAIR"
program for 2017 is as follows:**

Arlington A-L: March 23, 2017

Spackenkill: March 28, 2017

Red Hook: March 30, 2017

Roy C. Ketchum: April 4, 2017

Webutuck: April 5, 2017

Pine Plains: April 19, 2017

Dover: April 20, 2017

Millbrook: April 25, 2017

Pawling: April 26, 2017

Hyde Park: April 27, 2017

Beacon: May 2, 2017

Arlington M-Z: May 3, 2017

John Jay: May 11, 2017

Rhinebeck: May 24, 2017