



CITY OF DOVER, NEW HAMPSHIRE

POLICE DEPARTMENT



Anthony F. Colarusso, Jr.
Chief of Police

September 19, 2016

Dear 5th Grade Parent:

It is my pleasure to invite you to participate in your child's DARE program during the 2016-2017 school year. The ***Dover PACT (Police and Community Together) Program*** is described in the attached documents and provides a very valuable opportunity to be sure that your child is receiving the same message from you as he or she is getting in school.

We know your time is valuable so we put a great deal of effort into insuring that the program is interesting and useful. We will provide you with up to date research and information on drug and alcohol issues, strategies for discussing these issues with your child, and a variety of demonstrations and presentations that parents have found to be quite valuable in the past.

Our agency is committed to reducing the harm done to our youth by alcohol, tobacco and other drugs and I hope that you are able to participate with us in this very important program.

If you have any questions after reviewing the attached information, please feel free to contact Officer Chris Pieniasek at 516-7031.

Very truly yours,

ANTHONY F. COLARUSSO, JR.
Chief of Police



DOVER PACT PROGRAM

DESCRIPTION

WHAT IS THE PACT PROGRAM?

This is a voluntary program presented by the Dover Police Department which is designed to enhance the lessons learned in the 5th grade D.A.R.E. program. If you elect to join the PACT (Police and Community Together) Program, it will involve three evening training sessions (one per month). Each session will last for approximately two hours. In addition, there will be three worksheets (homework assignments) that are to be completed by the student and adult working collaboratively.

WHY HAS THIS PROGRAM BEEN DEVELOPED?

Parents, and other important adults, are the most influential people in your child's life. Research has consistently shown that drug use can be reduced in homes where the dangers of drug use are discussed and where students perceive that there is a strong "no use" message given in the home.

It is often awkward or difficult for parents to initiate a conversation about drug use. Parents do not always feel confident about their own understanding or level of information about the drugs that are available to their children. This program will provide both up-to-date information and a mechanism that will produce regular discussions regarding drug issues between adult and student.

In addition, parents will become intimately familiar with the strategies and philosophies given to their children in the DARE classroom. This makes it easier for them to support and reinforce the DARE Program, and send a consistent message to their children.

We will also address the rising concerns surrounding the use of social media. Our intention is to present you with the realities of social media and give you strategies on how to combat some re-occurring problems with social media use, particularly with children in the 5th grade.

I WORK NIGHTS-- CAN SOMEONE ELSE PARTICIPATE FOR ME?

Yes! Any trusted significant adult that is willing to spend a modest amount of time with the DARE student to complete the worksheets, and who is willing to attend the evening sessions, is welcome. Stepparents, grandparents, older adult siblings, or any other responsible adult is welcome. In addition, two parents from the same household can split the responsibilities for attending the various sessions and

completing the worksheets (if you elect to do this, we recommend that both attend the first evening session).

IS CHILDCARE PROVIDED?

Yes! We will be offering childcare at the training site to those parents who are unable to secure it on their own. Please check off the appropriate box on the registration form.

WHAT ARE THE INCENTIVES TO PARTICIPATE?

We understand that you and your kids are busy with school, sports, and family obligations. To encourage participation:

- Students will get their ***Drug-Free ID***, which provides a variety of discounts at area businesses, several months earlier than non-participants and will receive a program ***t - shirt***.
- Additionally, each participating parent will get a high quality ***sweatshirt***

Some of the police officers who will be teaching D.A.R.E. to your children will also teach these evening sessions. These classes will be entertaining and interesting. Your participation is encouraged.

WHAT IF WE MISS A PRESENTATION OR ASSIGNMENT?

As a matter of fairness to all participants, we must require that all three homework assignments be completed and all three evening sessions be attended. Each lesson is presented multiple times to make it easier to attend.

I'VE PARTICIPATED IN THE PROGRAM WITH ONE OF MY OTHER CHILDREN-- DO I HAVE TO PARTICIPATE AGAIN?

No. Although, we encourage you to participate again, we feel that those who have **attended the program within the last 2 years** can still afford their child the benefits of the program by **attending the first session (November) and completing all 3 homework assignments with their child**. Just complete the homework / worksheets on time, and e-mail them to Officer Pieniazek and your child will receive the benefits of program participation. We ask that you still register for the program to allow us to track your homework assignments. Just check the appropriate box on the registration form.

CONCLUSION

The DARE Officer has only 45 minutes per week for 10 weeks to make an impact on your child. The DARE program is so much more effective when the lessons, strategies and principles are reinforced and emphasized in the home also. If any parent has any questions regarding any aspect of this program you are encouraged to contact Officer Pieniazek at 516-7031 or by email: c.pieniazek@dover.nh.gov.

**Please return the enclosed registration to
your child's teacher by 10/7/2016**



DOVER PACT PROGRAM **REGISTRATION FORM**

In order to participate, please complete the form below and have your child return it to his/her classroom teacher as soon as possible – even if you can't participate.

STUDENT'S NAME: _____

5TH GRADE TEACHER'S NAME: _____

I WILL I AM UNABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM.

I WILL I WILL NOT NEED CHILDCARE

I'VE GRADUATED FROM THE PROGRAM WITHIN **THE PAST 2 YEARS**, BUT I WILL ATTEND THE FIRST SESSION (NOVEMBER) AND COMPLETE THE HOMEWORK WITH MY CHILD.

Complete the below section if you are participating:

PARENT NAME(s): _____

PHONE# _____

ADDRESS: _____

Email ADDRESS:

**(PLEASE WRITE YOUR E-MAIL CLEARLY AS THIS WILL BE OUR
PRIMARY MEANS OF COMMUNICATION)**

The Dover Police Community Outreach Bureau is always trying to bring you the most current information that is of interest to the participants. Please check off any additional topics that may appeal to you. Past participant opinions are still valuable.

- Underage Drinking Issues
- Use of Marijuana
- Inhalants
- Steroids
- Club Drugs (like Molly, Ecstasy, etc.)
- Music/Videos and their effects on drug and alcohol use
- Alcohol and tobacco advertising and its effects on your child
- A parents' guide to signs and symptoms of particular drugs
- Social media concerns

Any other topic not listed above or other comments:

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM BY October 7, 2016.

All forms should be returned to your child's teacher.

**If you have any questions, please contact Officer Chris Pieniazek at
Office: 516-7031
Email: c.pieniazek@dover.nh.gov**

DOVER PACT PROGRAM LESSON SCHEDULE

***All classes are held in the McConnell Center cafeteria (through door 7 off of St. Thomas Street across from the entrance to the court house).**

You only need to attend one class for each of the three lessons.

As always please contact me with any questions.

Officer Chris Pieniasek
603.516.7031
c.pieniasek@dover.nh.gov

Lesson # 1 classes (attend one)

<i>Wednesday, November 2, 2016</i>	<i>6:30-8:30 PM</i>
<i>Thursday, November 3, 2016</i>	<i>6:30-8:30 PM</i>
<i>Monday, November 7, 2016</i>	<i>6:30-8:30 PM</i>

Lesson # 2 classes (attend one)

<i>Wednesday, November 30, 2016</i>	<i>6:30-8:30 PM</i>
<i>Thursday, December 1, 2016</i>	<i>6:30-8:30 PM</i>
<i>Monday, December 5, 2016</i>	<i>6:30-8:30 PM</i>

Lesson # 3 classes (attend one)

<i>Wednesday, January 4, 2017</i>	<i>6:30-8:30 PM</i>
<i>Monday, January 9, 2017</i>	<i>6:30-8:30 PM</i>
<i>Wednesday, January 11, 2017</i>	<i>6:30-8:30 PM</i>