September 2018

Dear Sixth Grade Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

The Simi Valley Unified School District is committed to providing the most effective approaches to preventing the use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs in our schools and communities. Simi Valley Unified School District has been a long standing recipient of Tobacco Use Prevention Education (TUPE) grant funding and, as a result, is able to provide age-appropriate substance abuse prevention curriculum. This year, as sixth graders, your child will participate in a science based curriculum called Model Smoking Prevention Program (MSPP). If you are interested in reviewing the MSPP curriculum, please contact your child’s 6th grade science teacher.

MSPP uses a variety of instructional strategies such as peer-led discussion groups, role play, analyzing tobacco advertising/media messaging, parent involvement, and goal setting. MSPP aims to provide youth with the knowledge and resistance skills they need to prevent tobacco and other drug use. MSPP consists of six consecutive core lessons, each 45-50 minutes in length, implemented over a 3-4 month period. In addition to the six lessons, your child may be given the opportunity to hear from professionals, such as nurses and pharmacists, or guest speakers from Straight Up Ventura County, Ventura County Public Health or Ventura County Behavioral Health regarding tobacco, marijuana, e-cigarette/vape, drug and/or alcohol use and abuse.

We look forward to continuing our partnership with you as we help your child stay healthy and achieve academic success. Additional resources can be found on the SVUSD Substance Abuse and Prevention website: www.simivalleyusd.org/substanceabuse. If you have any questions and/or concerns please feel free to contact me at shannon.mccabe@simivalleyusd.org and/or (805) 306-4500 ext. 4318.

Sincerely,

Shannon McCabe
Tobacco Use Prevention Education (TUPE) Coordinator