September 2018

Dear Ninth 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, your child will participate in a curriculum called Project Towards No Drug Abuse-Project TND. To view the curriculum, please visit [http://tnd.usc.edu/preview.php](http://tnd.usc.edu/preview.php)

*Project TND* is a research-validated program focusing on skills, motivational factors, and decision making as predictors to tobacco, alcohol, and other drug use. There are twelve interactive lessons that will be taught throughout the school year in your child’s Health class. As a supplement, your child may be given the opportunity to view the documentary “Overtaken”. This video features the battle of addiction as told by youth and specialists in the fields of medicine and addiction. This documentary can be viewed at [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e9oj3E-NPtI](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e9oj3E-NPtI). In addition, 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](http://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 Coordinator