



MARYSVILLE GETCHELL HIGH SCHOOL



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Dear Parent/Guardian:

Marysville Getchell High School is implementing a program called Project SUCCESS (Schools Using Coordinated Community Efforts to Strengthen Students). Project SUCCESS is a research-based program that builds on the findings of other successful prevention programs by using interventions that are effective in reducing risk factors and enhancing protective factors in youth. The goals of the program are to prevent and reduce alcohol, tobacco and other drug use and to improve school performance. To accomplish these goals, students will have the opportunity to participate in additional school-wide awareness programs, classroom discussions, extracurricular activities, small groups, and individual meetings to correct erroneous perceptions about substance use and learn skills to identify and resist social and situational pressures to use substances. Parent meetings and workshops will also be available to assist in prevention efforts.

Mrs. Alex Merkt, our Student Assistance Professional/Intervention Specialist, will be responsible for implementing and coordinating Project SUCCESS prevention and education activities at Marysville Getchell High School. Mrs. Alex Merkt has a Bachelor's Degree in Human Services and Masters in Mental Health and Family Dynamics. She has previous experience working with adolescents and adults who were trauma impacted and has worked closely with drug and alcohol inpatient/outpatient settings. Her position is funded and overseen by the Northwest Educational Service District 189 in partnership with the Marysville School District. During the 2019-2020 school year 9th grade students will receive the Project SUCCESS Prevention Education Series.

Mrs. Alex Merkt will be available to support students individually and in groups who are using alcohol or other drugs or have personal, school, or family issues that could lead to substance abuse. If you have concerns about your child's behavior and would like to speak to the Project SUCCESS Student Assistance Professional/Intervention Specialist and/or have the Project SUCCESS Student Assistance Professional see your child, please call her directly at 360.965.2414. All calls will be confidential.

We are hopeful that Project SUCCESS will be effective in preventing and reducing alcohol and other drug use and in improving school performance.

Sincerely,
Principal Richard Zimmerman

