

<< Your letterhead >>

<< Today's date >>

Dear Parent or Guardian,

<< Next week or on * dates >>, students will be attending an assembly to listen to a presentation by Laura Stack, the Founder & CEO of the nonprofit, Johnny's Ambassadors Youth Marijuana Prevention. << Optional – We will also be offering a parent night on << date and time >>.>>

Laura Stack's 19-year-old son, Johnny, died by suicide on November 20, 2019, after becoming delusional from dabbing high-THC marijuana concentrates in their home state of Colorado. Soon afterward, Laura started her nonprofit to educate parents and teens about the dangers of youth marijuana use. Before marijuana, Johnny was a computer whiz with a 4.0 GPA and a perfect math score on the SAT. Three days before his death, Johnny issued his own warning about how using marijuana had ruined his mind and his life. Through this presentation, Stack hopes to help teens understand how marijuana can harm them.

The objectives include:

- Who's Johnny?
- "Then" vs. "Now" marijuana
- Why do youth use marijuana?
- Is marijuana medicine?
- Adolescent brain development
- Impacts of THC use on adolescents
- Risks of mental illness, psychosis, and suicide
- Learning refusal skills

This presentation was developed in consultation with doctors on Johnny's Ambassadors Scientific Advisory Board. The program provides age-appropriate prevention and does not show photos of drugs. The goals include reducing the intention to use marijuana, increasing the perception of harm, being able to refuse marijuana when offered by friends, and motivating teens who are already using to reconsider.

[Research consistently shows](#) that teens who learn about the risks of drugs are less likely to use substances than teens who report learning nothing about the risks. We committed to providing the most effective approaches to preventing the use of THC products in our school and community. You can learn more about Johnny's Ambassadors at <https://JohnnysAmbassadors.org> and Laura's presentation at <https://johnnysambassadors.org/speaking>. Additionally, please feel free to contact me at the email address below with any questions.

Sincerely,

<< Educator Signature Block >>