



April 10, 2015

Dear OHS Parents & Guardians,

This letter is to encourage you to not let the celebration of prom, graduation or a birthday turn into a tragedy due to the use of alcohol. Students have reported instances in which parents, and other persons, have hosted private parties in homes, motels, on their land or other locations where alcohol is provided or accessible for consumption by minors. This practice should not be allowed and may expose the sponsor of such a party to a potential civil and criminal liability. The minimum fine for violation of the social hosting law is \$1,000. In addition, students need to understand that it is a criminal act for an underage person to consume an alcoholic beverage and that the sale or distribution of alcohol to an underage person is against the law and is a Class A misdemeanor.

As members of the Ottawa Community Advisory Group, (whose purpose is to make Ottawa a safe and healthy through family involvement, partner collaboration and promotion of local resources) we are currently working on various strategies to reduce underage drinking. This year, there is a multi-agency law enforcement task force that will be out looking for underage drinking parties this spring & summer.

We recognize, however, that your support as parents is very important if we are to be successful. It takes the commitment of the community, families and schools to truly make a difference in creating a safe and healthy environment for our youth to live, learn and grow into successful adults. Let's work together to send a strong message to our youth that we care enough for them NOT to allow them to use alcohol and other drugs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis P. Butler".

Dennis Butler  
Ottawa Police Chief

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey Richards".

Jeffrey Richards  
Franklin County Sheriff

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dr. Ryan Cobbs".

Dr. Ryan Cobbs  
OHS Principal

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Hunting".

Steve Hunting  
Franklin County Attorney