

November
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KIDS2KIDS

Students Uniting to Create Positive Change

Coalition for Healthy and
Safe Communities
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17th Annual Taking Flight to Change Summit a Huge Success!!

We would like to send a BIG thank you to everyone who participated in our 17th Annual Taking Flight to Change Summit on October 19th. We are thankful and send lots of appreciation to Sparta High School for hosting the Summit!

The energy, enthusiasm and excitement at the event was incredible. The summit's presentations and this year's theme— **Be Fearless, Choose Kindness**— let everyone know that they can change the climate of their school simply by being kind. The summit also helped attendees gain the

confidence to say something when they see bullying, and realize that standing by as bullying happens is as bad as the bullying itself.

We had over 80 high school leaders who were phenomenal in their assistance and energy. Middle school students and



advisors were greeted the morning of the event with amazing excitement. Our keynote speaker Keith Hawkins knew exactly how to

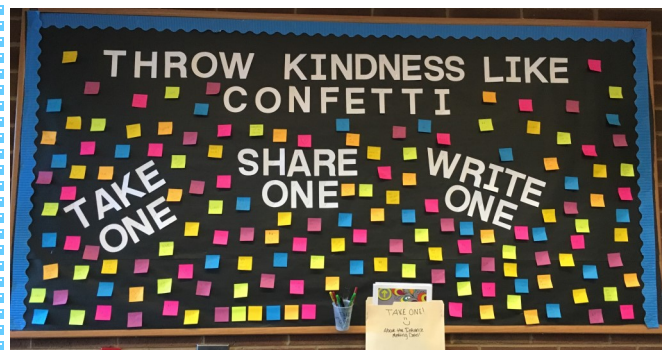
inspire students to make a change. A HUGE shout out goes to the Camden Sophisticated Sisters, a drill team from Camden, NJ, for joining us and dancing their hearts out on stage. Throughout the day we saw student presentations from Stillwater Elementary, Sussex County Charter School, Hardyston Middle, Sussex County Technical School, Sussex Middle, Franklin Elementary, Sparta Middle and Sparta High School.



It is clear that attendees received the message and are motivated to make a difference. To share your activities with us send a description and pictures to jenn@centerforprevention.org.

Spreading Kindness at Glen Meadow

Students from Glen Meadow Middle School who attended the Anti-Bullying Summit and also participate in the Vernon Coalition Above the Influence Youth Group are working to spread kindness throughout the school.



Students are in charge of keeping this bulletin board well stocked with post-it notes so that students and staff can use them to spread kindness.

The 100 post-it notes on the board have already been written on, so someone can take one quickly to pass on. Some ideas of what can be written on the post-its are "great job!", "you are not alone," "you can get through this," "love," and "kindness." There is also the ability for someone to take a blank one from the folder and write their own message for a friend or someone in need.

AWESOME Week of Respect and Red Ribbon Week Updates from Sussex County

Hudson Maxim School- Students spent lunch getting to know their classmates for the National Know Your Classmates Day sponsored by Beyond Differences, an organization based in California. Students played conversational games during lunch to find out more about the people who sit at their lunch table each day!



Halsted Middle School- Throughout the week students and staff participated in different spirit days including Superhero Day, Team Up Against Bullying, Give Bullying the Blues and Newton Braves Day. In the classroom students were presented with the opportunity to participate in the Center for Prevention and Counseling's What's Your Anti-Drug Contest. In order to *Show Respect for Our Community* Halsted Middle School conducted a food drive asking students to donated canned goods.



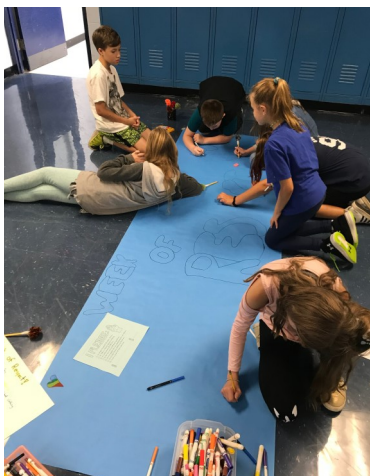
Kittatinny Regional- Students from Kittatinny had the opportunity to sign the "Be Fearless, Choose Kindness" banner pledging to be kind to others. The student body and staff were presented with Take What You Need posters in order to encourage a positive school climate. Spirit days were held including Superhero Day and Wear Blue Day.



Sparta Middle School- In celebration of Red Ribbon Week we had different spirit days for students and staff to participate in! Throughout the week students and staff were able to participate in guessing as to how many Swedish Fish filled a mason jar. Students had the opportunity to announce either a drug fact or a prevention message each day over the morning announcements. In the classroom teachers were asked to view with their students a video from NaturalHigh.com and hold a discussion with their students.

Valley Road School- In celebration of Week of Respect their were respect messages said each day on the morning announcements. Students had the opportunity to sign the Be Fearless, Choose Kindness banner pledging to be kind to all. Students in Kindergarten through 8th grade attended a laser show assembly by Prismatic Magic Laser Show. Everyone in the school had the chance to paint rocks with kindness messages to be placed in the school courtyard. Teachers and students worked together to decorate bulletin boards with kindness messages and participate in spirit days.





Lounsberry Hollow Middle School– Students and staff participated in different themed days throughout the week to highlight different aspects of Respect. A special assembly from Camfel Productions called “Count on Me,” taught students what it means to be responsible and trustworthy. Students were encouraged on Wednesday to wear mismatched clothing to show that our school is a safe place to be and we can dare to be different. Students were encouraged to accept others who are different and to show how they are unique. Students made banners and posters to showcase the meaning of respect and signed Pledges to respect others.



Hopatcong Elementary Schools– The elementary schools in Hopatcong collaborated together to celebrate Red Ribbon Week with school spirit days. The week was kicked off with *Too Smart to Start!* where everyone was asked to wear as much red as possible. Students were given the opportunity to show off their own personal style on *Be U-nique! Crazy Hair Day*. Students were able to wear pajamas to

school on *I am dreaming of a healthy world day*.



Franklin Elementary School–Red Ribbon Week is a National campaign focused on bringing awareness to the dangers of substance use. This year’s theme was “Life is Your Journey, Travel Drug Free.” Throughout the week Franklin Elementary held different spirit days for students and staff. Ashley LeBelle, from The Center for Prevention and Counseling presented to the students on the dangers of vaping.



Stillwater School– Throughout our Week of Respect students were encouraged to emphasize ways in which we respect others and our community. Our Week of Respect community initiative was to donate to Father John’s Animal House, which is an animal rescue located in Lafayette, NJ. Students were encouraged to donate different animal food, paper towels, garbage bags, cat litter or cleaning wipes. Students and staff also had

the opportunity to participate in different spirit days throughout the week long celebration.

