



Pearl River School District

PEARL RIVER MIDDLE SCHOOL

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“Striving, Believing, Achieving, Succeeding”

Maria A. Paese

Principal

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Assistant Principal

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Dear Parents/Guardians of Grade 7 Students,

The Pearl River Middle School has partnered with the Orangetown Police Department (OPD) to introduce the D.A.R.E. “*keepin’ it REAL*” (kiR) junior high/middle school curriculum, which teaches students four ways to refuse drug offers – **Refuse, Explain, Avoid, Lease**. The strategies taught will help prepare students to act responsibly in difficult situations.

This program is for upper middle school students and that is why it is being taught to our 7th graders before they enter high school. Due to the unpredictable nature of this school year and the limited amount of time left, the program has been condensed to cover a 5-week period. The lessons will be taught once a week on the following dates: 4/13, 4/23, 4/28, 5/7, and 5/12. The lessons will be taught by OPD officers and your child’s Science teachers during Science class.

7th Grade Lesson Outline:

Lesson 1: **Refuse, Explain, Avoid and Lease** strategies.

Lesson 2: Decision making and norms.

Lesson 3: Vaping.

Lesson 4: Opioids and prescription medications.

Lesson 5: Review.

We are confident that this program, adopted by D.A.R.E., along with the support and encouragement from families, will provide our students with the skills needed to live drug-free.

Sincerely,

Maria A. Paese

Principal

MP:dr



U.S. Department of Education – Pearl River Middle School – 2011 Blue Ribbon Winner
N.Y.S. Department of Education – Pearl River Middle School – 2015 Rewards School