

MECHANICAL PENCILPALOOZA!!



Thursday, April 27, 2017

Did your student come home with a “Be True” mechanical pencil today? Volunteers from the PTSA and Influence the Choice handed out 2100 purple and gold colored pencils this morning as students entered the building. It was not only a nice surprise for the students, but it was another element of the Positive Community Norms (PCN) campaign, known around IHS as Be True.

As you’ve read in previous Enews, the campaign is designed to correct student perceptions of substance use at IHS. Teens generally overestimate the percentage of their peers who are using drugs and alcohol. This misconception makes teens feel like more of their peers are engaged in unhealthy behavior...it makes it feel like the norm. The goal of the PCN campaign is to help correct that perception using data from the Healthy Youth Survey along with the Be True message created by a student focus group last year.

A lunch survey that we took in March confirmed that students are seeing and connecting with the campaign. This year’s focus was to go beyond posters,

iVision and the reader board display at the school's entrance. PCN handed out Be True rally towels at a basketball game, and today we followed with Be True mechanical pencils. We hope to keep the Be True message in front of students as much as possible.

So, please ask your student about that bright, shiny new mechanical pencil! It can open the door to a discussion about the campaign, substance use, or how to Be True to what they believe.

THERE'S A NEW SRO IN TOWN

As many of you already know, Officer Zanella is no longer the Student Resource Officer at IHS. Due to a much deserved promotion, he has returned to the Issaquah Police Department as a Corporal.

Fortunately for IHS, Officer Zanella has been replaced by Officer Turner, a patrol officer with 9 years at the Issaquah Police Department. Officer Turner has already stopped in to a PTSA General Membership meeting to introduce himself, and he has also created a pizza lunch series for students. The PTSA provides the pizza, and Officer Turner provides an opportunity for students to ask questions, discuss issues, and get to know him better.