

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Nordonia Hills City School District Hosts 5th Annual Safe Decisions Week September 12-16, 2022

Macedonia, Ohio- Nordonia Hills City Schools District in collaboration with State Farm Agent Jill Gaba and Ohio Sports Chiropractic and Rehab are excited to announce the return of Safe Decisions Week for an impressive 5th consecutive year during the district's Homecoming week September 12-16.

The week-long event will take place in all of the Nordonia schools from elementary to high school. The week will focus on safety and health education and will include hands-on learning to help high school drivers make safe driving decisions.

Safe Decisions Week culminates Friday, September 16th at 5 p.m. The community is invited to attend the Nordonia Community Resource Fair prior to the **SAFE DECISIONS WEEK BLACK-OUT AND HOMECOMING FOOTBALL GAME** against Twinsburg at 7 p.m. The Knights will wear their commemorative black uniforms which includes a special patch for Safe Decisions Week. These uniforms were donated by our local businesses, Jill Gaba-State Farm Agent and Ohio Sports Chiropractic and Rehab.

A brief overview of the rest of the week's activities are as follows:

Monday 9/12: All high school students will attend ThinkFast, an interactive game show style assembly that teaches students about the dangers of distracted driving. All buildings in the district will participate in **Mindfulness/Mental Health Monday** focusing on mindfulness and safety.

Tuesday 9/13: All schools will focus on **Safety Tuesday**. This includes being a safe passenger, bike safety, fire safety, cyber safety, and driver safety.

Wednesday 9/14: All schools will focus on decisions that promote wellness for **Physical Wellness Wednesday**.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, High school students can participate in several interactive driver safety exercises during lunch. Students will have the opportunity to try Drive Team's Skid Cart Simulator, sit in a semi-truck to experience Drive Team's Semi-Truck Blind Spot Awareness, and drive Akron Children's Hospital Distracted Driving Simulator. The Summit County Sheriff's office will also be in attendance to talk to students about driver safety. Students may have the opportunity to win a giveaway for participating in these activities.

Thursday 9/15: All schools will focus on **Get Connected Thursday**. This day promotes the importance of social connections and positive relationships. At the High School, the Summit County Sheriff's Office will be on hand to do **Seat Belt and Texting Checks** during dismissal times to educate student drivers about the importance of these safety measures.

Friday 9/16:

5:00 p.m. - Free Pregame Nordonia Community Resource Fair

Free and open to the community! Hot dogs, chips, bottled water, and resource tables offering information on safety and wellness and other resources available in our community.

7:00 p.m. - Wear Safe Decisions Week black-out gear to the homecoming football game as the Knights host Twinsburg.

Jill Gaba, local State Farm Insurance Agent has been a flagship sponsor of the event since its inception, "I am so excited to be sponsoring the 5th annual Safe Decisions Week! When Ohio Sports Chiropractic and I proposed this idea to Nardonía High School, we did not anticipate how much it would grow. Over the past 5 years, we have not only organized teen driving safety activities at the high school, but we have expanded this week to include interactive assemblies, daily safety themes for the district, safety pledge banners for each school, t-shirts and commemorative jerseys for the football team. It's truly amazing for the Safe Decisions Committee and I to consider how many students we've been able to encourage to make safe and positive decisions. The students and staff have shared that they look forward to this week each year because there are so many fun ways to get involved in learning about making safe decisions!"

"Safe Decisions Week has become a great Nardonía tradition of bringing the community together to focus on keeping our kids safe," said Zach Miley, Student Wellness Coordinator at Nardonía, "the activities are really interactive so it's a great way for them to learn about making safe decisions."

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