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Dear Parent/Guardian,

We are pleased to inform you of the partnership between Venice D-Fy (Drug-Free youth), Drug Free Sarasota, First Step of Sarasota, Inc., and the School Board of Sarasota County. Drug Free Sarasota is the state-funded substance abuse prevention coalition that is tasked with providing substance abuse prevention awareness throughout Sarasota County via educational initiatives and prevention activities.

This year, we are focused on the expansion of the Drug-Free (D-Fy) youth Initiative. D-Fy is a free and voluntary, community-based, prevention initiative that praises, rewards, and recognizes youth, in grades 6-12, who pledge to remain drug, alcohol, and nicotine/tobacco free for one calendar year. After validating their commitment to remain drug, alcohol and nicotine/tobacco free, with a negative drug screen, youth join the initiative and are entitled to discounts from local business partners and admission to D-Fy exclusive events.

D-Fy helps to create a movement of peers who share a commitment to making positive choices and living a healthy, drug-free life.

A parent/guardian's consent is required for all youth, ages 18 and younger, to participate in this initiative, at their school. All enrollment events **require drug testing**, and are conducted at a variety of select locations and times on campus. Venice D-Fy staff and volunteers are responsible for conducting these enrollment events. Sarasota School District employees will **NOT** participate in any drug testing. Furthermore, no Sarasota School District staff are made aware of drug screen results, as this information is confidential.

D-Fy is completely **VOLUNTARY** and there are no required meetings to attend. Should your youth want to join this initiative, they must complete and sign the membership application, that is attached to this letter, and you (parent/guardian) must sign the application, as well. We have prepared a Frequently Asked Questions document which is attached to this letter and should answer any questions you may have. If you still have questions, please feel free to contact Venice D-Fy / the Warehouse office at office@Venicedfy.com, or call 941-497-7117.

Warm Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Debbie Eaton".

Debbie Eaton
Director, Venice D-Fy (Drug-Free youth) / Warehouse