Dear Educator:

Thank you for participating in Red Ribbon Week.

Parents and other caregivers play a key role in preventing and responding to substance use. Below, please see a template that you can adapt and send to the parents and other caregivers of the students in your school.

The information in brackets can be either changed to reflect your community’s situation or removed.

If you have any questions, please contact DEA’s Community Outreach and Prevention Support Section at community.outreach@dea.gov

Thank you again!

Dear Parent / Caregiver:

On [DAY] / This [WEEK/MONTH], our school is participating in the Red Ribbon Week substance use prevention awareness campaign.

We do so because we want all our students to be healthy and safe. *[You may add local statistics or information about substance use prevalence, concerns, or successes in your community.]*

This campaign complements our other efforts to promote positive, healthy behavior. *[You may describe other efforts, such as health classes or afterschool programs.]*

At home, this can be a good time to have discussions with your child about substance use. Tip sheets to guide age-appropriate conversations (including conversations with older or younger siblings) can be found here:

* [**Tips for Talking to Preschoolers**](https://www.dea.gov/sites/default/files/2025-06/Preschoolers_0.pdf)
* [**Tips for Talking to Elementary Students**](https://www.dea.gov/sites/default/files/2025-06/ElementarySchool.pdf)
* [**Tips for Talking to Middle School Students**](https://www.dea.gov/sites/default/files/2025-06/MiddleSchool.pdf)
* [**Tips for Talking to High School Students**](https://www.dea.gov/sites/default/files/2025-06/HighSchool.pdf)
* [**Tips for Talking to Young Adults**](https://www.dea.gov/sites/default/files/2025-06/YoungAdults.pdf)

You can also use this [**pledge**](https://www.dea.gov/sites/default/files/2022-07/Student%20and%20Parent%20Red%20Ribbon%20Week%20Pledges%20%282018%29_508-updated%20graphic.pdf) as part of your conversation.

More support is available to help you help your child be healthy and safe. *[You may identify local resources, if available.]*