



Teen CAP

September 6, 2016

Dear Parent(s):

During the next few weeks, Paterson Charter School will implement the teen version of the Child Assault Prevention (TeenCAP) project. TeenCAP was developed by the International Assault Prevention Center as a response to the violence in the lives of adolescents. As parents concerned about the safety of your children, we hope you will join with us in participating in this program.

TeenCAP aims to prevent assault against teens by training them to recognize and deal with potentially dangerous situations, and by preparing adults in the youth's community to recognize and care for youth who have been abused.

TeenCAP has three components:

- a parent program
- a teacher/staff in-service
- classroom workshops for students

The adult program provides information on assault against teens, identification of assault victims, reporting of abuse, and crisis intervention skills. There will also be a detailed description of the TeenCAP workshop.

The student workshop combines guided group discussion and a series of scenarios (short stories) to focus on situations teens frequently encounter. Topics discussed include stranger assault, battering, dating violence, and sexual assault. Strategies emphasized to protect teens include self-assertion, seeking help from a trusted adult, and self-defense.

The success of TeenCAP depends on the support of the school community. Because the project encourages teens to share their experiences and concerns with adults, it is important for parents and school staff to be willing and able to respond to these concerns. As part of the Paterson Charter School community, we invite you to attend the TeenCAP parent program on September 20, 2016 at 5:30 p.m.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Dr. Joseph Miceli', is written over the typed name and title.

Dr. Joseph Miceli
Director of Curriculum and Instruction