

Cougar A.D.V.A.N.C.E.

(Anti-Drug & Violence Awareness for New Choices & Endeavors)

Frequently Asked Questions

When does it occur?

April 25, 26, & 27, 2011

How do I sign my 8th grader up to participate?

Complete the registration materials located on [Mr. Wolf's webpage](#).

Registration is due?

March 4, 2011

What is the purpose?

Cougar A.D.V.A.N.C.E. is to provide 8th graders with a final tool as they prepare to leave Hauser and move on to their respective high school. The program consists of activities that will challenge students to become leaders and reflective thinkers. The final objective is to provide students with the background knowledge and tools to make positive healthy decisions when they are faced with the challenges of adolescence regarding drugs, alcohol, and negative peer decisions.

Where does Cougar A.D.V.A.N.C.E. take place?

Bradford Woods, an educational center operated by Indiana University, located in Martinsville, IN approximately three and one half hours from Riverside.

How will students be engaged to reach the program purpose?

Experiential Learning & Adventure Education Opportunities

Low & High rope challenge activities that include Wall Climbing, Pamper Jump, & Alpine Tower. In the high level activities students will make individual choices to participate at a level which is comfortable for them, while peers help them accomplish the task.

Conference setting for evening activities

On the first night the keynote speaker will empower the group to strive toward making healthy life choices. The focus will be on positive decision making when faced with the challenges of adolescence in regards to drugs, alcohol, and negative peer pressure. The second evening is a conference where students will select 3 different workshops to attend. All conference presenters are prompted to hold interactive sessions that speak directly to the topics of healthy decision making, provide factual information about drugs and alcohol, handling peer pressure, and managing the stress of adolescence and high school. The goal of the conference approach is to provide students an engaging small group setting where they are involved in discussing and processing the information at hand. This environment will allow students to interact purposefully and allow for the practice of leadership skills. The workshops will be led by mental health professional, graduate students who are focused on prevention/intervention activities with youth, and law enforcement officials. These individuals work directly with youth on a daily basis and clearly understand the day to day lives of adolescents. The conference provides the opportunity for students to hear the Cougar A.D.V.A.N.C.E. message multiple times in a variety of formats from different speakers.

Focused Reflection

Students will journal though out the program. Each student will be provided with a journal that includes prompts leading them to think about their future and also reflect on who they are as individuals. The process will provide them with a foundation on how to manage their journey through high school and beyond.

I have additional questions who do I contact?

Mr. Wolf at wolfk@district96.org or 708-447-3896

How can you help?

Sponsor a student by donating toward a scholarship for a student who's family needs support to fund their child's participation. Donations for scholarships or fundraising opportunities should be forwarded to Mr. Wolf's attention. Please make checks payable to Riverside Public Schools District 96 and please indicate in the memo "sponsor Cougar A.D.V.A.N.C.E.".