



March 31, 2010
Dear Parents:

We are excited to bring to our community the 7th annual “Positive Choices for Youth Day” on Friday, April 23rd. We are celebrating the day with a **youth rally** at Patrick Henry Community College. This year we will be offering a **NEW** Parent Preview time, from 1-3 pm on that Friday. Parents and community members are welcome to tour and experience the life maze. For a detailed schedule, please see below.

Students MUST attend the maze to be able to attend the activities afterwards.

This event, “Let’s Play...REAL Situations, Outcomes, Maze, Life” is being sponsored by Piedmont Community Services; CHILL, HEY! and Drug Task Force; and a coalition of state, local and youth serving agencies along with community businesses and individuals.

A large part of the rally will be a **teen maze for middle and high school students**-each group will be going through the maze at a separate time, so---**What is a teen maze?** Imagine a life-size game board where teenagers are the pawns and life’s choices are the dice. Each student will receive an “occupation/salary card” as they enter the maze. The maze is designed to help teens better understand potential outcomes to life decisions concerning sex, substance abuse, and vocational/educational issues. **Realistic scenarios** help teens navigate their way through the maze and find out about **consequences of behaviors**. The interactive “game” provides information on many topics that could include: abstinence, pressures, contraceptives, tobacco, drugs and alcohol, rehabilitation, legal consequences, sexually transmitted diseases, labor and delivery, teen parenting, and post graduation career and education choices. **No judgment is made on any of the paths**. Accurate information on vocations, sex, health, and substance abuse is related in a factually based presentation.

Going through the maze is purely on a voluntary basis. Pictures will be made of those attending the rally for publicity purposes. This maze will be fun, but will present some real, yet difficult situations that are for educational and informational purposes only. The information has been planned by professionals in their area of expertise. There are mature subject themes using graphics and videos. In this game, the students are victims of chance, but in real life they have choices to make. So the maze is about **responsible decision-making and making appropriate choices**. The students are encouraged to learn from their peers’ experiences in the maze and to discuss their family values and expectations with their parents. *

There will be free pizza and drinks for everyone!

Rally Schedule for Patrick Henry Community College In Stone Hall Friday, April 23rd	1 – 3 pm	<u>NEW!!!!</u> Parent Preview Time
	5:00 pm	Kick-Off
	5:00 - 7:30	Free pizza, drinks
	5:30 - 7:15	Middle School Maze exits to “After Maze Party” until 8:15
	7:30 - 9:30	High School Maze
	8:30 - 11:00	Exits to High School “After Maze Party” until 11:00 pm

We hope you will join us for this special night to celebrate our youth and positive choices!

Katie Connelly
Community Organizer for Prevention

**Information adapted from “Build It And They Will Come”*

NEW RULES THIS YEAR:
We ask for your help to remind rally participants

- **To adhere to school dress code**
- **No high heeled shoes**
- **No oversized baas and backpacks**

LET'S PLAY!



ATTENTION

Parents and Guardians

NEW!!!! *Parent Preview Time*

1:00 – 3:00 pm

Friday, April 23rd

If you must drop off your middle school child, they **MUST BE**

PICKED UP BY 8:30pm

High School students by 11:00 pm