

# Are You Worried About Your Child?



**The Student Assistance Program (SAP) can help students experiencing barriers to learning.**

## **A Guide for Parents/Guardians**

### **What Is SAP?**

A SAP team made up of school and agency staff is available to help you access school and community services for your child.

In Pennsylvania, every school district is required to have a plan for identifying and assisting students who experience barriers to learning.

The Wyoming Valley West High School SAP team will help you find services and assistance within the school, and if needed, in the community. We do not diagnose, treat, or refer your child for treatment. We will provide you with information and available options that best fit your needs and wishes. As the parent/guardian you are an important part of the team.

### **Do You See Your Child Showing Any of These Behaviors?**

- Withdrawing from family, friends, and/or activities
- Changing friends
- Unexplained physical injuries
- Feeling sad
- Talking about suicide
- Defying authority, both at home and school
- Acting aggressively
- Hitting
- Lying
- Needing money without a good explanation
- Declining grades
- Experimenting with alcohol or drugs
- Outbursts of anger

### **Are You Concerned about Your Child's Reaction to...?**

- Recent death of a loved one
- Divorce of parents
- Family relocation
- A relationship problem
- Bullying
- Other traumatic event

### **How Does My Son or Daughter Become Involved in the SAP Program?**

Anyone can refer a student to the SAP team. Some students are referred by teachers or other school personnel. A friend or family member can also let the SAP team know that they are worried about someone. The child can even go directly to the team or their Guidance Counselor to ask for help. However, the SAP team will not proceed

unless you give your written parent permission. Once permission is received, a team member may gather information to determine how a student is doing in their classes. The WVV SAP team will work with you to develop a plan of action to help your child achieve success in school. Participation in the program is voluntary.

### **What If Someone Has Referred My Child to SAP?**

A WVV SAP team member will contact you regarding your child's referral to the program. Before a SAP team member talks to your child, you will be asked to sign a permission form. As a parent, your knowledge and thoughts about your child will be helpful in developing a plan of action. If you need more information before making a decision about SAP, please feel free to talk to a team member.

### **How Do I Contact the SAP Team?**

If you have any questions about SAP or you feel that your child may need help, call the high school and ask to speak with any of the following team members. WVV HS Phone: (570) 779-5361.

*Mr. Robert Cardone*

*Mrs. Kristen Kaminski*

*Mrs. Kimberly Leary*

*Miss Mallory Lewis*

*Mr. Robert Perrin*

*Mr. Paul Potera*

*Mrs. Maria Ratchford*

*Mrs. Karen Tomaczewski*

*Representatives from Wyoming Valley Drug And Alcohol Services, Inc. and Children's Service Center*



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### **Privacy**

The SAP team information is completely confidential and the team will respect you and your child's privacy at all times.

If you would like more information on SAP, go to the school website at [www.wvwsd.org](http://www.wvwsd.org) (select High School and Parents) or visit the Pennsylvania SAP website at <http://pnsas.org/About-SAP/General-SAP-in-PA>

