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Pre-prom initiative expanded to ensure safe prom experience

Submitted by the Montcalm Prevention Collaborative

As prom season approaches, Montcalm Prevention Collaborative, in partnership with the Greenville Youth Advisory Council, is proud to introduce Pre-Prom, a proactive initiative aimed at providing juniors and seniors with a safe and memorable prom experience.

For the first time, Pre-Prom will be available at Lakeview High School and Tri County High School, while it enters its third successful year at Greenville High School. This initiative is designed as a harm reduction tactic, offering students a secure alternative to potentially dangerous pre-prom and post-prom activities.

Pre-Prom encompasses a comprehensive package, including chartered bus transportation to and from prom

venues, prom tickets, a catered buffet dinner, and professional photography services. By providing all-inclusive arrangements, Pre-Prom ensures that students can focus on enjoying the festivities without concerns about logistics or safety.

“We recognize the importance of promoting safe alternatives for students during prom season,” said Jodie Faber, coordinator for Montcalm Prevention Collaborative. “Pre-Prom offers parents a peace of mind, knowing that their children are in a secure environment while celebrating this milestone event.”

Juniors and seniors interested in enrolling in Pre-Prom or seeking further information are encouraged to email Montcalm Prevention Collaborative’s coordinators at coordinator@montcalm-prevention.org.

Tri County High School installs boxes for anonymous vape disposal

Submitted by the Montcalm Prevention Collaborative

PIERSON TOWNSHIP — In a proactive effort to address vaping among students, Tri County Youth Prevention Club, a division of the Montcalm Prevention Collaborative, has installed two amnesty boxes in its restrooms at the high school near Howard City.

These boxes are dedicated to providing a safe and anonymous means for students to dispose of vaping devices, embodying the principles of harm reduction.

The initiative, spearheaded by the Tri County Youth Prevention Club, is a testament to the dedication of both students and faculty towards promoting a healthy and safe school environment. Under the guidance of Laura McCarthy, the club advisor, students diligently crafted a proposal which garnered unanimous support from the Montcalm Prevention Collaborative’s executive board.

Funded through the Prevention Network Coalition Support & Community Change Grant, with additional support from the community, the installation of these amnesty boxes marks a significant step towards addressing the issue of vaping among youth.

The Tri County Youth Prevention Club is part of a larger network of youth prevention clubs, including those at Lakeview High School and Greenville High School. These clubs, led by student leaders and supported by dedicated advisors, work tirelessly to implement various programs aimed at supporting their peers and promoting harm reduction strategies.

One such program is the Pre-Prom event, funded by the Greenville Youth Advisory Committee, a division of the Greenville Area Community Foundation, and organized by Montcalm Prevention Collaborative. This initiative provides students with a safe and enjoyable pre-prom experience, including



The installation of amnesty boxes at Tri County High School reflects a collaborative effort between students, faculty, and community stakeholders to address the challenges posed by vaping. — Submitted photo

transportation, dinner, and prom tickets, free of charge.

In addition to their efforts in organizing events like Pre-Prom, the youth clubs also engage in fundraising activities to support their initiatives. Most recently, Lakeview Youth Prevention Club will be hosting a free dodgeball tournament from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on March 9 open to all interested participants.

The installation of amnesty boxes at Tri County High School reflects a collaborative effort between students, faculty, and community stakeholders to address the challenges posed by vaping. Through such initiatives, the youth prevention clubs continue to demonstrate their commitment to promoting healthier choices and behaviors among their peers.