# DanversCARES

School Committee, November 2016

# Mission

Our mission is to assist youth and families in making healthy decisions; to reduce youth substance use; and to ensure the future of a safe and healthy community.

We work toward this by encouraging collaboration, expanding programs and services for youth and families, and by supporting sustainable change.

# Priority Initiatives 2015-16

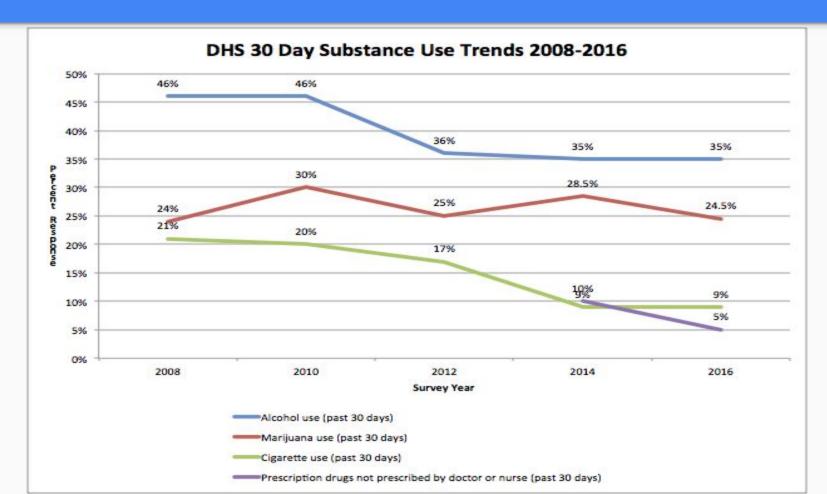
- Prevention focus on youth alcohol and marijuana use
  - ParentsCARE, FalconsCARE, and HawksCARE positive social norm campaigns
- Youth & Family Programming
- Continue Regional Collaborative Work: Opiate (MOAPC) and Substance Abuse Prevention (SAPC)
- Strengthen partnerships
- Sustainability Planning

# Danvers Youth Risk Behavior Survey Overview 2016

### When reviewing Data Consider

- This is only one data set. Data should be considered within community context as well as other school-community indicators.
- Trend analysis is most meaningful.
- Significant difference can be obtained for individual questions, but generally speaking a one percent change (+ or -) is not significant.
- If there are questions about the interpretation of certain indicators, please ask.
- The data set is robust. Highlights should be viewed as a starting point of discussion.

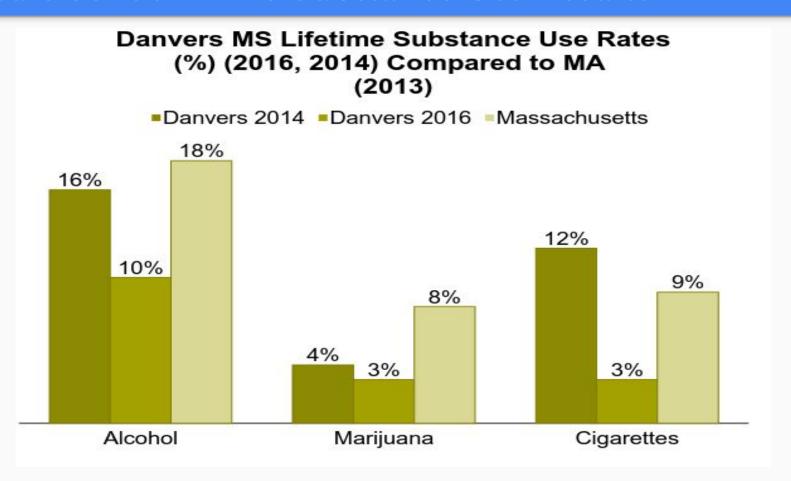
# DHS Substance Use Trends: 2008-2016



# High School Data Summary

- Youth rates of substance use are trending downward with the exception of marijuana.
- Use typically increases by grade level across all substances.
- While cigarette use is low, alternative tobacco product use is demonstrated by "roll your own" and e-cigarette use.
- Perception of harm, with the exception of Marijuana, continues to decrease over the past 2 years.
- Mental and emotional health indicators remain on par with state and national levels.
- Bullying behaviors are trending downward and are par with national rates.
- Protective factors, after increasing significantly between 2008-2012, remain fairly consistent.

# Middle School YRBS Substance Use Results



### MIDDLE SCHOOL SUMMARY

- Lifetime and current use of alcohol, marijuana and Rx drugs continue to decrease and remain much lower than state and national averages.
- Middle school perception of harm is going in the right direction and has increased for alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, and Rx drug use.
- Bullying behavior continues to decrease significantly (42% past year in 2014 compared to 33% in 2016.)
- Protective factors have increased between 2014 and 2016.
- All mental and emotional health indicators show great improvement.

# Overall Recommendations

- School and Community drug prevention priorities remain consistent: alcohol and marijuana.
- Continue to promote positive, normative behavior.
- Continue to focus on positive school climate, behavioral health supports, and social emotional learning of students.

#### **ENDNOTES**

- National data set can be searched for a state-specific (Massachusetts) data set.
   http://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/data/yrbs/results.htm
- Notes on Different Surveys
  - The CDC survey provides data on a variety of different health behaviors not measured on the local YRBS.
  - The Local YRBS includes additional substance abuse data per funding requirements and bullying questions per local determination.
  - The Massachusetts Youth Health Survey is different than the CDC Youth Risk Behavior Survey Massachusetts data set.
  - Survey length (total number of questions) and cost of data analysis is a factor in local administration.

For questions, contact Peg Sallade at 978-777-8932 x 2214.

danverscares.org
and
danverspublicschools.org

