

Email to Secondary Parents: April 21, 2023 (Excluding MMS and BMS – already had presentations)

In-Person, Pre-Summer Fentanyl Assemblies at Hays CISD Secondary Schools

Dear Hays CISD Parents,

In our ongoing efforts to educate students on the fentanyl crisis we will be holding assemblies for all secondary grade levels (6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>) in May for students who have not already attended one of the presentations. We believe that it is imperative to continue our messaging about the dangers of illegal, counterfeit pills created with fentanyl before school ends for the summer. Hays CISD lost four students last summer to the crisis.

**The Assemblies:**

The guest speakers of the assemblies are Janel Rodriguez-Dunn, a Hays CISD parent whose child Noah died at the end of last summer because of the fentanyl crisis, and Hays County Sheriff's Deputy Anthony Hipolito. School counselors will be available to monitor the presentations and help with any students who need additional assistance.

Janel has been a fierce advocate to protect children from fentanyl and has founded a non-profit to aid the fight. You can learn more about the Forever 15 Project at: <https://www.forever15project.org>. She and Anthony have been invited to speak nationally to various audiences from students to lawmakers.

Additionally, Hays CISD has been a leader in the fight against fentanyl, creating resources and helping to ensure people are aware of the seriousness and immediacy of the crisis. The district's Fighting Fentanyl information and resources are online at: [www.hayscisid.net/fentanyl](http://www.hayscisid.net/fentanyl).

**Opting-Out Options:**

We understand that individual family situations and children are unique. If you, for any reason, do not wish for your child to attend the assembly you may opt them out by using the online form at the following link: [www.hayscisid.net/optout](http://www.hayscisid.net/optout). (To ensure your optout is received on time, please complete the form by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, April 24, 2023. Presentations will begin at our campuses as soon as Tuesday, April 25, 2023.) Once the presentation schedule is finalized, you'll receive a separate email from your campus letting you know the date and time of the presentation for your child's grade-level.

Additionally, students may self-opt out by reaching out to the counselor at their campus up to the time of the presentation and during it. The counselor will reach out to you if your child expresses concerns.

Thank you for your attention and partnership as we continue to work to protect our children and community from this real and present danger.

Sincerely,  
Tim Savoy  
Hays CISD Chief Communication Officer