

March 17, 2008

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The **STEP-UP** Committee (Students Townspeople, Educators, & Parents-United to Protect our students) would like to **invite you and your child grades 7-12** to attend an open forum discussion on March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2008 (7:00- 8:30PM) in the Lewis Mills Auditorium.

STEP-UP was formed this year by the school psychologists Michelle McCard and Mandie Maher, along with three student leaders, in response to the numerous student losses that have greatly impacted the communities of Burlington and Harwinton. It is imperative that schools, parents, students, medical personnel, and law enforcement agencies work in conjunction to educate today's youth regarding the dangerous/reckless behaviors which put them at risk.

The panel discussion, which will be followed by an audience question/answer session, offers a multi-perspective approach. Our panel is comprised of the following individuals based on professional expertise and personal experience:

Troopers Mike Burke and Ray Buthe.....	Resource Officers
Elizabeth Cristofaro.....	Attorney
Kevin Petit.....	McCall's Drug/Alcohol Counselor
Alison Barney.....	Intensive Care Unit Nurse
Mark Luebeck.....	Parent

If a student **attends this event with a parent(s)/guardian(s)** their name will automatically be entered into our student raffle to be announced that evening.

We look forward to seeing you and your child for this event. Please join us for refreshments in the auditorium lobby at 6:45PM.

Sincerely,

The STEP-UP Committee,  
Michelle McCard, Mandie Maher  
Elyse Pedra, Sarah Campbell, Josh Dumas