

Department of Education • City of New York
THE LEON M. GOLDSTEIN HIGH SCHOOL FOR THE SCIENCES
at KINGSBOROUGH
1830 Shore Boulevard
Brooklyn, New York 11235



"Academic Excellence in a Caring Community"

Joseph Zaza
Principal

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Dear Student:

Welcome to your new school. This letter is about your high school's HIV/AIDS Condom Availability Program which the New York City Department of Education began in 1991. The goal is to encourage high school students to make responsible decisions about behaviors that can lead to infection with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. The safest choice is to abstain from high-risk behaviors, including sexual intercourse and substance abuse. The Condom Availability Program, which offers young people an opportunity to learn more about how to reduce their risk, is confidential. You do not need to give your name; only your Student ID number.

Your school has at least on health resource room where students can:

1. Obtain information about HIV/AIDS and other health issues.
2. Talk with trained staff members
3. Request free condoms
4. Request information about how to use condoms correctly.

*Look for Health Resource Room signs in your school for hours and location.

Parents and guardians have the right to request that their children be excluded from receiving condoms. Every year the school sends an opt-out letter to parents and guardians of new students. If your parent or guardian signs it, you can still obtain information, but cannot receive condoms. A parent or guardian can make the decision to opt-out or re-enter the student in the program any time during the school year. The parental opt-out does not apply to students who are 18 years or older, who are or have been married, who are parents, or who are entitled under law to give consent for themselves.

I encourage you to discuss the Condom Availability Program with your parent or guardian. Together, I am confident that we can help stop the spread of HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases, and look forward to long, healthy lives. You can view the HIV curriculum on line at <http://schools.nyc.gov/Academics/FitnessandHealth/StandardsCurriculum/HIVAIDSCurriculum>.

Sincerely,

Joseph F. Zaza
Principal

JZ/lp