

**PARENTS
MATTER**



**Coalition
of Pierre
Fort Pierre**

Let's make a difference

Parents Matter Coalition of Pierre/Fort Pierre
c/o Growing Up Together
800 E. Dakota
Pierre, SD 57501
Telephone: 605-224-3189
Email: parentsmatter@pie.midco.net
Website: www.parentsmattercsd.com

Parents Matter Coalition Meeting was held on Wednesday, October 10, 2012, Riggs High School Lunch Room. Attending: Mike Stroup, Rob Coverdale, Larry Weiss, Elton Blemaster, Teresa Schmidt, Dawn Tassler, Kellie Shuman, Danielle Anderson, Pierre School Resource Officer- Martin Waller, Students: Jessica Smith, Ashley Grambihler, LeAndra Hoefener, Tori Byer, Kori Goldsmith, Hanna Corning and Elaine Scott.

The Parents Matter meeting for October was held at Riggs High in hopes of reaching some of the students and teachers.

Larry – Introduced the Parents Matter group and told a little about our group.

Larry – Then talked about the Pride Survey results and the CMCA Results. The kids seemed interested in the results of the Pride Survey. Larry then told the kids why he was involved in Parents Matter that kids mean a lot to him and he wants to keep them and others safe. He said drinking is not only a safety issue but a health issue also.

Resource Officer Martin Waller – He welcomed the students and said he was very proud of them and they are a great bunch of kids.

Danielle Anderson, State Farm Insurance – Talked about the insurance that teens pay and if they get a DUI and have to file an SR22 filing how their insurance will double and it must be maintained, they cannot just get insurance file the SR22 filing and then drop the high cost insurance. Their driver license will be suspended until they get the insurance again.

Capt. Blemaster – stated that the PD takes underage drinking very seriously, if you are caught drinking and driving you will be arrested. There will be no calling your parents and you cannot refuse to take the blood test if you are asked. They have zero tolerance and they take these things very seriously.

Capt Blemaster said, yes you can drink if you are with your parents, but you cannot have friends drinking with you and if you leave your parents and have been drinking and are arrested you cannot say, I was drinking with my parents. You will be arrested.

Teen Court, Kellie – Commended those not participating/engaging in drinking and getting into trouble. Kellie said that 70% of the cases in Teen Court are drug/alcohol related.

Mike S. – Thanked the Parents Matter group for being there and commented to the kids that on the Pride Survey most of the kids (80%) do not drink.

At this time Larry asked the kids to fill out the evaluation and sign the sign-In sheet.

Larry – talked about the Teen Task Force and how they are looking at the laws that govern teenage driving. He said one of the comments from the task force was to take the Driver License age from 16 to 17 years. One student asked if this would hinder the teens that help on the farm with driving. Larry said it would not, there would still be a restricted permit for working and driving to school. They will try to limit the number of persons that can be in a vehicle with a restricted driver. These are all just in the talking stage it will have to be presented to the legislature and they will have to deal with it. One student asked if you are 16 and already have a license if you will be grandfathered in and not have it taken away until you are 17. Larry said to watch for information from the legislature, he did not have answers.

Larry brought up the issue of texting and driving and he talked about the Sioux Falls law, the result of a teen texting on Minnesota Avenue and speeding, hit a car and a motorcycle and the cyclist was killed. One student suggested that everyone get a hands free device installed in their vehicle.

Next Meeting is scheduled for Noon on Wednesday, November 14, 2012 at St. Mary's Health Care Center, 5th Floor Conference Room, Pierre, SD.

Respectfully submitted,
Elaine Scott, Administrative Assistant
Parents Matter Coalition