

# CLARKSTOWN COMMUNITY TASK FORCE

*A coalition of community organizations working for our youth*

Lorette Adams  
Chairperson

October 2016

Dear Parents, Guardians, Students, Limousine and Van Drivers:

We hope that all students, parents, and school administrators share a common goal: the safe and fun celebration of Homecoming, Junior and Senior Proms. Unfortunately, there often seems to be a handful of young people who jeopardize their own safety, and the safety and fun of others, by consuming alcohol or using other illegal substances. They often encourage others to do so as well. A night of pleasant memories may well turn into a nightmare for themselves, their friends, their parents and others.

Tragic stories have made most parents/guardians aware of the risks of pre and post dance parties. All too often though, the ride from the dance to the post-dance event is an opportunity to consume large amounts of alcohol, or other substances, in a short period of time – a recipe for disaster. Unfortunately, a teenager's sense of invulnerability tends to downplay any risk as something that impacts "others" but never themselves.

Students seem to be able to easily obtain alcohol or illegal substances. More often than not, we find that confiscated alcohol comes from home rather than from the nearest liquor or convenience store. Parents/guardian should make their expectations clear in discussion with their child. They should also speak with the livery driver before they leave for the evening. Livery companies strive to utilize drivers that couple common sense with a concern for health and safety. Only rarely have we heard of one who stopped to allow students to purchase alcohol.

It is with this in mind that The Clarkstown Community Task Force has constructed the *PROM-ise*, a set of voluntary contracts between students, parents/guardians, and livery services. We hope they will provide parents/guardians with an opportunity to open discussions with their child about their expectations. Despite what parents may believe, the loss of a parent's respect and trust has a major impact on a child's behavior.

The positive response to this program the last fifteen years has been gratifying. We hope that all students, parents/guardians, and livery services continue to commit to our goal by completing the contracts. Please help us fulfill our *PROM-ise* that, *"In Clarkstown children will always come first."*

Sincerely,

Clarkstown Community Task Force by,

**Lorette Adams**

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Chairperson

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## **PARENT CONTRACT WITH LIMOUSINE/VAN DRIVERS**

1. I will not allow the use of or serve any alcoholic beverages/illegal substances in my home or at any pre-school dance activity.
2. I will not purchase alcoholic beverages/illegal substances for my child to use en-route or at any school activity.
3. Neither student nor parent will ask limousine/van drivers to purchase alcoholic beverages/illegal substances, and students will not bring same into the vehicles.  
School personnel and chaperons will have the right to inspect vehicles for alcohol/illegal substances where there is any reason to suspect same.
4. In an ongoing effort and in order to emphasize to our community the importance of substance-free transportation aboard hired liveries, the Clarkstown Central School district will only allow:
  - a) Buses/coaches on its grounds when there are at least two supervising parents/guardians aboard the vehicle and;
  - b) Limousines on its grounds when the company is part of the Clarkstown PROM-ise program. A list of those enrolled will be distributed.
  - c) The school district also reserves the right to inspect all hired liveries or other vehicles (e.g. student cars) on school property, including all student carry-ons.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian's Signature

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## CONTRACT WITH LIMOUSINE AND VAN SERVICES

To the parents, students and schools of the Clarkstown Central School District, and to the Clarkstown Community Task Force:

1. We will not allow any alcoholic beverages or illegal substances to be brought into, stored in, or used in our hired vehicles. Any alcoholic beverages in the vehicle, including any that are the property of our company, will be removed.
2. Our vehicle driver will be instructed to view the bringing in, storing or use of such beverages/substances as a breach of contract and shall refuse to provide any further service upon such a breach. However, liability for all charges shall remain the responsibility of the contracting party.
3. Our limousine/van drivers will not purchase or provide alcoholic beverages/illegal substances for any passenger, nor will they facilitate the passengers being able to obtain same.
4. Our limousine/van drivers shall have the right to exclude any persons under the influence of alcoholic or illegal substance from their vehicle. They will allow school district personnel or chaperons to search the interior of our vehicles when alcohol/illegal substances are suspected.
5. As owner/general manager of \_\_\_\_\_, I pledge that my company and our drivers will abide by these terms, and that we take responsibility for any infractions by our drivers.
6. I understand that parents/guardians will be advised that this agreement has been made, and that they will be relying upon the existence of same in contracting for services or allowing their children to do so.
7. In an ongoing effort and in order to emphasize to our community the importance of substance-free transportation aboard hired liveries, the Clarkstown Central School District will only allow:
  - a) Buses/coaches on its grounds when there are supervising parents/guardians-at least two aboard the vehicle.
  - b) Limousines on its grounds when the company is part of the Clarkstown Prom-ise program. A list of those enrolled will be distributed.
  - c) The school district also reserves the right to inspect all hired liveries or other vehicles (e.g. student cars) on school property, including all student carry-ons.

For your information, Homecoming for Clarkstown High School **North is September 24, 2016** and for Clarkstown High School **South October 1, 2016** Clarkstown South will hold its Junior Prom on **March 15, 2017** Clarkstown **North H. S.** will hold its Junior Ball on **April 29, 2017**. . Senior Prom for Clarkstown **South** High School is scheduled for **June 8, 2017**. Senior Prom for **North** High School is scheduled for **June 9, 2017**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Limousine/Van Company Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature /Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Company Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
City/State

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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*Chairperson*

October 2016

Dear Parent/Guardian:

**The Clarkstown Community Task Force is once again sending you this information as part of a community effort that is concerned about the safety of our students.**

**Enclosed please find a copy of the Clarkstown PROM-ise consisting of a contract between the parents, guardians and students, and another by the limousine/van companies. We are asking all to sign and commit themselves to this effort.**

**The Clarkstown Community Task Force is asking for your support in this important project to ensure the safety of our children. We have sent these contracts to limousine services in Rockland and Westchester Counties, and nearby New Jersey. Enclosed is a list of the limousine services that have signed the contract as of June 2016. A new listing will be distributed in early Spring.**

**Thank you for your support in the Clarkstown PROM-ise.**

Sincerely,

Clarkstown Community Task Force by,

**Lorette Adams**

Lorette Adams  
Chairperson