

**A MESSAGE FROM THE MEMBERS OF THE PROUT CHAPTER OF
STUDENTS AGAINST DESTRUCTIVE DECISIONS (SADD)**

May 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are approaching prom and graduation season at The Prout School. It is a time of much excitement and celebration. While we want everyone to enjoy the festivities, it is important that we remember to do so in a responsible manner.

Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) does its best all year to provide the Prout student body with the information needed to make responsible choices. When we were discussing what we could do to raise awareness pre-prom and pre-graduation, a central topic that came up was our desire to enlist the support of our community of parents and guardians.

RI Law states, "It is against the law for a host to permit an underage person to consume alcohol." *Permit* is defined as "to give permission for, or approval of, the possession or consumption of an alcoholic beverage by any form of conduct, that would cause a reasonable person to believe that permission or approval has been given."

This means that if teens are drinking on private property and it is reasonable that the property owner has knowledge of this, then the owner can be arrested.

Underage drinking causes many health risks. While taking keys will prevent drunk driving accidents, it does not stop alcohol poisoning, sexual and physical assaults related to intoxication, impaired judgment, and other injuries related to intoxication.

We understand that parents and guardians want their teens to have fun at prom or graduation. It may be hard to say NO to underage drinking. But we ask all to imagine how hard it would be to face the parent of a child who is hospitalized with alcohol poisoning from consuming alcohol at your home.

Please take some time to talk to your child about their post-prom plans and the dangers of underage substance use of any kind. For the sake of all in our community, please... be strong...be aware...and be vigilant. Our lives are depending on it.

Thank you for listening!

Sincerely,

The Prout Chapter of Students Against Destructive Decisions