

Gary Batton, Chief

Jack Austin Jr., Assist Chief



Angela Dancer, Sr. Director

Christi Hammons, Director

Choctaw Nation Better Beginnings

SMART Program

PO Box 88 Hugo, OK 74743

580-326-8304 Fax: 580-326-2410

Dear Parent or Guardian:

The **Choctaw Nation SMART Program** will be implementing the evidence-based educational curriculum, Making Proud Choices in **School Districts located in Choctaw, McCurtain, Pittsburg, Atoka, Bryan and Pushmataha Counties.** The Making Proud Choices Curriculum will be taught to 9th grade High School Students. This Program is funded by the Department of Health and Human Services Office of Population Affairs. The project goal is to have a significant impact on reducing rates of teen pregnancy by replicating evidence-based teen pregnancy prevention program in middle school, high school, and alternative schools. These counties have some of the highest teen pregnancy rates in Southeast Oklahoma. This program helps students learn ways to prevent HIV infection, other sexually transmitted disease (STD), and pregnancy. The Making Proud Choices lessons emphasize that choosing not to have sex is the safest choice. All lessons will be taught by trained instructors from the Choctaw Nation SMART Program during the school day. There are 8 core lessons students will learn and practice ways to resist pressure to have sex. The Making Proud Choices program includes homework activities to help parents and children talk about personal limits. This homework is voluntary, and students will not share their answers in class. Please contact Christi Hammons at 580-326-8304 to arrange a preview time and answer any questions you may have about the program.

Please review the information below. If you do not want your child to participate in this program, please sign and return this form to the school.

Thank You for Your Support

9th Grade Curriculum Includes:

Module 1: Getting to know you and steps to making your dreams come true.

Module 2: A possible outcome of unprotected sex: HIV infection

Module 3: Attitudes about sex, HIV and Condom use

Module 4: Strategies for preventing HIV infection: Stop, think, and act.

Module 5: Possible outcomes of unprotected sex: STI's

Module 6: A possible outcome of unprotected sex: Pregnancy

Module 7: Developing condom use and negotiation skills.

Module 8: Enhancing refusal and negotiation skills.

Informed Consent 9th Grade Making Proud Choices:

It is the Choctaw Nation's interest to analyze all aggregated data collected from the total student body and share those results with the Office of Population Affairs, Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma and School Board Professionals upon request if they so desire. Data will represent the total study population which includes schools in Choctaw, McCurtain, Pittsburg, Bryan, Atoka and Pushmataha counties with similar demographics, but could be drafted by individual school districts to inform school professionals of future curricula materials that may be beneficial to their individual school.

Please check one of the choices below, sign and return to school.

I give permission for my child to participate in the Making Proud Choices Program, in which study personnel will gather the data necessary to evaluate the program's success from my child's participation. It is further understood that precautions will be taken to protect my child's confidentiality.

I do not give my permission for my child to participate in the Making Proud Choices Program.

Signature
