

School Board Request to use the High School Parking lot/Chautauqua for the Night on the Streets

Event: Night on the Streets

Students in the high school—primarily National Honor Society students— will be fundraising to support a local institution that supports homeless teens. They raise money and then actually spend a night outside, building empathy for teens that live their lives on the streets. This activity helps raise awareness in the community concerning teen homelessness as well as builds empathy within our own students. Students are asked to bring the bare minimum to sleep out—no luxuries like board games, snacks, and pillows are allowed as these items are not typically at the disposal of the homeless.

When: 6 PM Friday Oct. 6 to 6 AM Sunday Oct. 7

Where: High School parking lot/Chautauqua

To make this event as safe as possible, NHS would like to hold in a familiar locale: the high school. If students are familiar with the location, they are more inclined to feel safe. We also want to make sure it is in an open area that doesn't create anxiety for residents. If local parks were used, community members might be frightened by a group of teens spending the night outside. We also wanted to use the school grounds because emergency equipment would be readily available, like the AED, that the students and chaperones use.

Another major benefit to being at the high school is that the Chautauqua wing could be available for the students to use should the weather turn. The students will be advised to dress warm, but if the weather dips too low, we need an alternative for the students to use. The students and chaperones could use the floor of the Chautauqua lobby to sleep on. And finally, the bathroom facilities are good to use as well.

In general, the use of the high school and the Chautauqua are extremely important for this event. Dan Albrecht, head custodian at the high school, has approved the use of the Chautauqua building for this event, so we only need approval from the board.

Who will be there: NHS students/high school students who have raised money and adult chaperones.

Right now, there will be approx. 30 students sleeping out. This number could fluctuate as the date draws closer. However, there will be at least three staff members chaperoning this event: Jackie Halverson (English teacher) being the head teacher for the event. The students are also enlisting parent volunteers to help this event.