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# Minnesota

# D.A.R.E.

## Talk

### Bringing Together Communities and Law Enforcement for the Safety of Our Children

Minnesota D.A.R.E. has been studied and updated several times since 1990. We are no longer just about drugs and alcohol, We are a children's organization. Our mission is to advocate and educate for the health and safety of our Minnesota children Our officers are the vehicle and it became apparent that the not only talked to the children about safety issues; they formed relationships with the children and their families. The officers learned about the people in their jurisdiction.

The curriculum changed over the years to encompass issues like violence, bullying/cyberbullying, Internet safety, social media, prescription and over the counter drugs, opiate abuse, vaping, school safety, mental health issues, high school topics, communication skills, friendship, and suicide prevention. The current version of the curriculum was written by Penn State and has been on the effective program list under the title "keepinIt REAL." The elementary curriculum just completed an evaluation by UNC Greensboro-Jan. 2022. The socio-emotional curriculum utilizes a decision-making model. Any issue facing the children, in their schools/neighborhoods, can be dropped into this model.



**DARE OFFICERS TRAINING APRIL 2022 CLASS #50**

#### Minnesota D.A.R.E. is working to address:

*D.A.R.E. if more than prevention education but also community policing.*

- Keeping communities safe through enforcement and relationship building
- Build trust
- Humanizing law enforcement and community members
- Prioritize youth engagement
- Build on a strong program that is already in place
- Encourage emotional intelligence
- Inclusion and bringing communities together with law enforcement
- Provide positive community service and engagement for law enforcement
- Build community relations
- Employ best practices of community-based policing
- Provide training opportunities
- Provide for community service and engagement for law enforcement
- Help develop mutual respect
- Recruit our next generation of law enforcement
- Reach out to leaders in our communities
- Create opportunities for law enforcement and communities to come together to discuss concerns and issues
- Recognize and reward officers for good community policing

D.A.R.E. Officers become humanized to the students during 10 weeks with the students, being in the lunchroom, playing on the playground. The children can ask questions and are provided safety information (our tool) which starts conversations. The officers learn from the children and the officers now see them as individuals and friends. Through this relationship, we are able to address these above list of recommendations.

Minnesota D.A.R.E. is designed to bring together law enforcement and communities for the safety of our children and families. We are available to ALL children and recognize and accept ALL children and families. It is our desire that all children feel safe in their schools and neighborhoods.

More information on DARE - <https://dare.org/resource-guides/#articles>



## Minnesota D.A.R.E. Welcomes 28 New D.A.R.E. Officers

Minnesota D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) certified 16 new D.A.R.E. officers from the 50<sup>th</sup> class and 12 from the 51<sup>st</sup> class trained in Minnesota. These officers recently completed their two weeks of training conducted by Minnesota D.A.R.E. and the Minnesota BCA

After a pause in training, due to Covid 19, Minnesota D.A.R.E. set up the two officer training courses to get current programs back up and expand to areas that lost their programming due to challenging times. These officers are trained in Pre-K – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Pprogramming, Elementary programming, Middle School programming, High School programming, and our Enhancement Lessons – Vaping, Opiates and other Drugs, Suicide Prevention, Bullying/Cyberbullying, Gangs and Violence, Role Models, and soon to be released Social Media.

The D.A.R.E. Officer training is very intense and comprehensive. Officers must attend, participate, and pass classes, hosted by specially trained mentors under the direction of D.A.R.E. America. Officers are then given the D.A.R.E. curriculum at no charge and will continue to be supported in their teaching efforts by Minnesota D.A.R.E., Inc., the non-profit organization that administers the program for the state of Minnesota. These officers will be joining our currently certified officers, instructing approx. 60,000 students and their families annually.

\*\*\* Photos are available on our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/MinnesotaDare/>

### MN DARE Youth Advisor & Instagram

Minnesota DARE has a national youth advisor Eavan Bobbe. She was selected when she was a freshman and is this year a senior. She was originally living in Willmar and is now in Duluth Her main project is helping us get Duluth DARE back up and invigorate DARE in Minnesota. She provides MN DARE a voice from the students in Minnesota and I am hoping that you see a lot of her during the 2022/23 school year.

Eavan is working on getting an Instagram account working to reach Minnesota students and families. To help her get this going we need you to go to our account and start following. *DARE America has given her a monitored account and it is her job to gain followers and monitor the account with the oversight of DARE America.* Go to: **[mn.dare.yab](https://www.instagram.com/mn.dare.yab)**

MN DARE CLASS #51



MN DARE Officers Training Class #51 - July, 2022