

IF YOU FEEL DIFFERENT YOU DRIVE DIFFERENT

District 214 promotes the safety and dignity of their students while operating motor vehicles. To receive a parking permit, we require a conversation about IMPAIRED DRIVING between parent/guardian and student.

In 2018, NHTSA (National Highway Traffic and Safety Administration) launched its **IF YOU FEEL DIFFERENT YOU DRIVE DIFFERENT** campaign to educate Americans about the dangers of driving while impaired by drugs, and to promote safer choices. Any time you consume a substance that makes you feel different, you aren't safe to drive. Impaired driving isn't a mistake; it's a crime.

Make sure your young driver is aware of the leading causes of teen crashes. Have a conversation about the following. *

1. **Driver inexperience** (most insurance companies consider a "new driver" to be until 25 years old)
2. **Driving with the teen passengers** (for the first 12 months of licensing, or until the driver turns 18, only one passenger under age 20 is allowed in the vehicle, unless a sibling of the driver)
3. **Nighttime driving** (extra night time driving practice with your teen)
4. **Not using seat belts** (Illinois law requires all drivers and passengers, front and back seat, to wear a safety belt)
5. **Distracted driving** (electronic devices, eating, emotional/upset)
6. **Drowsy driving** (sleep is often the first thing to go with a teen's busy schedule, teens should average 9 hours of sleep a night)
7. **Reckless driving** (lack of skills, lack of experience, distractions)
8. **Driving under the influence** (includes but not limited to: alcohol, marijuana, drugs, sleep aids, Rx side effects, cough medicine, household chemicals)

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By signing this contract, I acknowledge that a conversation about IMPAIRED DRIVING has taken place on the above 8 topics.

Parent/Guardian Signature Date

Student Signature Date

*Those who drive under the influence of alcohol or drugs, whether obtained legally or illegally, pose a danger to themselves, their passengers, and other road users. NHTSA is determined to put an end to impaired driving - to save lives. Remember: Impairment is impairment, no matter the substance.
NHTSA.gov*

*You can't drive safely if you're impaired. That's why it's illegal everywhere in America to drive under the influence of alcohol, marijuana, opioids, methamphetamines, or any potentially impairing drug - prescribed or over the counter. Driving while impaired by any substance - legal or illegal - puts you and others in harm's way. Learn the latest research on drug-impaired driving, misconceptions about marijuana use, and what you can do to make smarter choices to drive safely.
NHTSA.gov*

*If you think driving while high won't affect you, you are wrong: It has been proven that Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) - the chemical responsible for most of marijuana's psychological effects - slows reaction times, impairs cognitive performance, and makes it more difficult for drivers to keep a steady position in their lane.
NHTSA.gov*

* CDC.gov

