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OCEAN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

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February 10, 2023

Dear Ocean County Superintendents,

Following the success of last year's contest, the Ocean County Health Department (OCHD) is pleased to offer its *Annual Public Health Awareness Competition* once more, in alignment with the 2023 National Public Health Week theme: "Centering and Celebrating Cultures in Health."

Ocean County students across all grade levels are invited to compete against other Ocean County students in a fun competition aimed at increasing public health awareness and challenging students to advocate for public health in their community. This competition also provides schools an opportunity to fulfill some curriculum requirements and obtain county-level recognition for the work of their students. Students are encouraged to submit original pieces based on the contest criteria for a chance to share messaging that focuses on one of the following public health topics related to the greater theme:

Nutrition, Hand and Dental Hygiene, Physical Activity, Communicable Disease, Substance Use Prevention, or Environmental Health.

The challenge is open for submissions now through **Friday, March 24th, 2023!** All submissions will be reviewed and judged by diverse OCHD staff. Winners will be announced on March 31st and an award ceremony will be held during National Public Health week (April 3rd - 9th) to recognize a first, second, and third place winner chosen from each age group (elementary school, middle school, and high school). Winners will receive prizes and have their inspiring work showcased!

The OCHD encourages youth to strive to be public health ambassadors in all situations. We are excited to see what our students submit for this year's contest and how they will continue to impact the community for the better. To participate in the *Annual Public Health Awareness Competition*, please call 732-341-9700 x7236 or x7234, or email us at healthed@ochd.org. Submissions will be accepted via email, drop-off, or can be coordinated for pick-up as needed. Attached herein are contest criteria. Thank you for your participation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Regenye", written over a horizontal line.

Daniel Regenye, MHA
Public Health Coordinator/Health Officer A-591

Ocean County's Annual Public Health Awareness Competition

We would like to collectively appreciate the way public health is integrated within various cultures across Ocean County. Our goal is that the 2023 ***“Centering and Celebrating Cultures in Health” Public Health Awareness Competition*** will further opportunities for collective understanding and appreciation of public health and one another.

Outlined below are this year's ***“Centering and Celebrating Cultures in Health”*** activities and associated prizes:

Grades and Topics:	Prizes:
<p><u>1st Grade-2nd Grade:</u> Handwashing <i>or</i> Dental Hygiene</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Potential Examples:</i> Handwashing poster encouraging correct hand hygiene; “Knock out Germs -Wash your Hands” hygiene poster; “What Do We Need for Handwashing?” poster/drawing with soap, water, etc.; Importance of brushing your teeth poster; Toothbrush painting; “Keep Cavities Away” poster 	<p><i>Grand Prize Winners:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Certificate of Achievement Student Certificate of Achievement awarded by Ocean County Board of Health and representatives at your school Recognition in local advertising announcing first place winners Student Health Ambassador Sweatshirt and T-Shirt Water Bottle Public Health Gift Bag <p><i>Second Place Winners:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Certificate of Achievement Student Certificate of Achievement Student Health Ambassador T-Shirt Water Bottle Public Health Gift Bag <p><i>Third Place Winners:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Certificate of Achievement Student Certificate of Achievement Student Health Ambassador T-Shirt Public Health Gift Bag <p><i>*Prizes will differ if a class enters the contest with one submission as opposed to entering individual submissions per student. For more info, email healthed@ochd.org. Thank you!</i></p>
<p><u>3rd Grade-5th Grade:</u> Physical Activity <i>or</i> Nutrition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Potential Examples:</i> Poster encouraging physical activity; MyPlate poster supporting balanced diet; “Eat the Rainbow” coloring page challenging kids to eat balanced diet; Healthy eating poem; Exercise poem; Poster on simple ways to stay active 	
<p><u>6th Grade-8th Grade:</u> Communicable Diseases <i>or</i> Immunizations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Potential Examples:</i> Poster encouraging covering your cough or covering your sneeze; Flyer on the best ways to prevent the spread of diseases; Poster or brochure on preventing foodborne illness; Promotional brochure or poster on the importance of routine childhood vaccinations; “How Do Vaccines Work?” educational poster 	
<p><u>9th Grade-12th Grade:</u> Substance Use Prevention <i>or</i> Environmental Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Potential Examples:</i> Poster on substance use prevention or environmental health; Draw a cartoon or comic for the decision making process; Write a rap, poem, or song about drug and alcohol prevention and/or healthy decision making; Brochure on environmental contaminants; Painting, drawing, or poster encouraging personal responsibility for noticing and reducing environmental health risks 	