

Safety Committee Meeting - December 15, 2015

Kate Hammond from the VT Department of Health mentioned there will be an exercise coming up dealing with Anthrax. It will take place at St. Mike's College on January 11th from 12:45 – 2:15. Ultimately you will learn how to medicate your families through pill distribution. Kate is looking for 100 volunteers to help with the exercise. Please contact her at: kate.hammond@vermont.gov 13 Sights in Chittenden County will be tested.

Chief Brad LaRose reviewed what was covered at the December 10th meeting that was held at the police department with Safety Committee Members, 3 local legislators and 1 Chittenden County senator regarding the legalization of marijuana. There were a number of presentations in opposition to the pending legislation. Students were also present at the meeting and gave their opinions. The students really drew the attention of the legislatures. Chittenden County Senator Ginny Lyons of Williston said there are research projects underway regarding education on the effects of marijuana and avenues for prevention. It is undetermined where the funding would come from. Also discussed was determining what would be the legal age to purchase and use marijuana.

Surveys show that slightly over 50% of Vermonters support is for legalization. Today's marijuana is much more dangerous than that of years ago. It is much more addictive than days of the past.

CCSU Superintendent Judy Denova commented about Rebecca Holcombe's memo on school shootings. Our community is numbing itself because of fear. We need to look beyond our traditional lock down methods in our schools. What are our reactions to shooters? We need to look at our current methods and move forward and explore some new models. Is it time to look at some of these opportunities? We need more strategies to become safe in our schools.