



To the Administration and Student Leadership of New York Jewish Schools,

I am writing to you as someone who attended (personally in NY, and now have children attending) Jewish Orthodox elementary and high schools, and who deeply values the care our communities place on the wellbeing of our youth. It is with this shared commitment that I would like to strongly recommend an important initiative: inviting fentanyl awareness speakers, specifically bereaved parents, to address our students.

Recently, I had the opportunity to hear Greg Swan, a father who lost his son to fentanyl poisoning, speak to a student audience. His presentation was profoundly impactful. He did not lecture or use scare tactics; instead, he spoke from the heart about the devastating reality of fentanyl and the risks that even “one pill” can bring. Students left not only more informed but more empowered to protect themselves and look out for one another.

Our schools place tremendous emphasis on safeguarding the physical and spiritual growth of our children. With fentanyl becoming more widespread and dangerous than ever before, it is vital that our students hear directly from those who have tragically experienced its consequences. These talks foster awareness, responsibility, and a culture of safety among peers.

I strongly encourage your school to consider bringing Greg Swan, or similar speakers, to address your students. From my own experience, I can say with certainty that his message resonates in a way few others can. We would also be eager to welcome him back for future engagements.

Thank you for your dedication to the wellbeing of your students. Together, we can take meaningful steps to protect and guide the next generation.

Sincerely,

*Jordana Jamil*

Events Coordinator