



## HUNTINGTON BEACH UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

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### Letter to the Parents of the Class of 2009

Parents - Please be Cautious!

As the school year comes to an end, students and their families plan celebrations ranging from graduations to family reunions. This can be a wonderful time for graduating students who have completed a milestone in their lives and want to celebrate that achievement. This time of year can also be a horrible time for families if harm comes to their graduate. Unfortunately, every year we read of students who attend unsupervised parties or trips and end up injured or worse.

To that end, I want all parents to know that none of our schools sponsor or condone graduation trips to Aruba, Mexico, or any other foreign country. You may be approached by a group stating that they are the "Marina High School Graduation Trip to Mazatlan" or the "Huntington Beach Trip to the Caribbean." Please know that these are private companies that have absolutely nothing to do with the high school or the district.

As a father of two adult children, I recall when they graduated from high school in North San Diego County and asked us if they could go on one of these unsupervised graduation trips. One of the most difficult things we parents must do is to say "no," especially when we hear "every other student is going!" As parents, the most important things we give our children are our family values and some protection from harm. Believe me, this is one time that you have a chance to save them from themselves.

Please be careful and cautious when considering these types of graduation trips.

Sincerely,

Van W. Riley, Ph.D.  
Superintendent

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*Our mission is to ensure all students learn and achieve to their maximum potential in a supportive and innovative environment that develops creative, responsible and productive individuals prepared to meet the challenges of the future.*