

May 1, 2008

RE: Graduation Parties

Dear parents of graduating seniors,

Are you planning a graduation party for your graduating senior? The East Community Group (ECG)* urges you to make it **totally alcohol-free** for the following reasons:

- *for your own protection* – The Social Host Liability law, LB 573, which went into effect on January 1, 2008, stiffened consequences for adults who procure alcohol for minors (see attached).
- *to be part of the solution to the underage drinking problem* – Underage drinking is a growing problem in our culture, our nation, our state, our community. You have an opportunity through your decision to have a **totally alcohol-free** graduation party to send a positive message to others that underage drinking is NOT okay.
- *to be a positive role model for your kids* – Graduation is a milestone. It's an opportunity to celebrate the past and joyfully anticipate the future. As your senior goes off to college or other independent living, what better time to send the strong message that life's "celebrations" don't need alcohol?
- *as a loving graduation gift for your senior* – Your senior is the honoree of the party, not the adult guests. This is your senior's party to celebrate your senior's achievement and your senior's future. And, your senior cannot legally drink alcohol.

As an incentive for you to plan and host a totally alcohol (and drug) free graduation party, ECG will put your name in a drawing for a chance to win one of three \$100 gift cards to help with catering your senior's graduation party. Simply sign, return, and honor the pledge below and return it to the East High office on or before **Thursday, May 22, 2008** (day before the senior breakfast).

GRADUATION PARTY PLEDGE

I pledge that the graduation party I am hosting or co-hosting for my graduating senior will be **totally alcohol-free**. By signing this pledge, I authorize ECG to recognize me, along with other participating families, by publishing our names in *The Neighborhood Extra* and other appropriate places.

Name of Senior: _____ Name(s) of Parents: _____

Signature(s) of Parents: _____

If you are a winner of a \$100 gift card, how may we contact you: Phone: _____

e-mail: _____

* The East Community Group (ECG) is a group of concerned parents, teachers, administrators, local businesses and churches that meets monthly to discuss and plan how best to help East High School students navigate the risky behaviors like alcohol and other drugs, tobacco, and gambling they have an opportunity to experience on a regular basis. The Lincoln Council on Alcoholism and Drugs (LCAD) provides technical support to ECG's efforts.