

Dear Waterford Families,

Keeping your kids safe and providing them with the tools to make good decisions is central to what we hope to accomplish at Waterford High School. Thanks to the generous support from the Brian Dagle Foundation, WHS will be hosting an all-school assembly featuring Chris Herren this Wednesday afternoon. You may recognize the name, as Chris is a former NBA player for the Boston Celtics who now speaks to student groups nationwide. From his website:

“Chris Herren is a former NBA basketball player, motivational speaker, author and sobriety advocate who struggled with substance abuse for much of his basketball career. Alcohol- and drug-free since August 1, 2008, he has refocused his life to put his sobriety and family above all else.

With the hope of reaching just one person and making an impact in their life, Chris travels the United States sharing his story with professional athletic teams and leagues including the NBA, NFL and MLB, University and Colleges, High Schools and Community Groups. Since 2009 he has spoken to over two million people nationwide and is thankful for each day that he can share his story to further a message of hope and that is it never too late to start a new chapter in your life.”

After the assembly, students will report to their Advisory class before being dismissed for the day. All counseling staff will be available to help any students who may need additional support processing the emotions that Chris’ talk may bring up for them.

It is the expectation that all students attend this assembly. We request that students not receive permission for early release on this day as this message is important for all students. Seniors with “senior leave” are expected to be at school and in attendance during this assembly.

I encourage you all to ask your kids about the assembly – it is sure to spark meaningful conversations for many of them. If you find that your children need additional support from the school, please feel free to contact our school counseling staff.

If you want to know more about Chris Herren and his presentation, here is a link to an [Introductory Video](#) that was shared with students prior to the assembly during advisory. Additional information can be found on his website at <https://herrentalks.com/message/>.

Sincerely,

Kirk Samuelson

WHS Principal