“I didn’t know life could be so easy!”
Prescription drug misuse and prescription pain reliever misuse declined in 2015.

*37% of students have ever used marijuana and 22% have used it in the past 30 days. Down from 39% and 24%.

*11% of students have ever misused a prescription drug. Down from 13%

*5% have misused a prescription drug in the past 30 days. Down from 7%.

*Lifetime use of heroin (2%), methamphetamines (3%), cocaine (5%), and inhalants (7%) did not change since 2013.
What could we have done differently?

Seven Opiate Overdoses Rock Brattleboro on the Fourth of July

POSTED BY MARK DAVIS ON WED, JUL 5, 2017 AT 1:44 PM
Vision without systems thinking ends up painting lovely pictures of the future with no deep understanding of the forces that must be mastered to move from here to there.

— Peter M. Senge,
What worked for Jared?

- Systems to build the relationships that matter
  - Recess, Ninth grade teams, advisory, house systems, personalized learning plans

- Culture of authenticity
  - Val vs. Principal Gardner

- Asset Lens vs. Deficit Lens

- Communities, not just schools
  - Spectrum, Centerpoint, NFI, Howard

- Student Empowerment
  - “Give them as much trust as they can handle.” Act 77.

- Responsive support teams focused on restorative practices.
  - House Directors, SAP, Counselors, Nurse, Advisors

- On-going meaningful, timely curriculum.

- Islands of competence
**Recommendations, systems**

1. Currently, students are mandated 1 semester of Health education. 5-7 of those classes are focused on substance abuse.

2. In the past, 12 members of the AOE were dedicated to substance abuse prevention. In recent years that number has been reduced to 0. In the past, 32 prevention coalitions existed statewide. Currently, there are 22 coalitions.
   - Develop more prevention leadership throughout Vermont.

3. Provide a “wellness audit” as a component of the EQS review teams.
Recommendation, actions

1. Ask Secretary Holcombe and Commissioner Levine to draft a call for all students to develop opioid abuse prevention recommendations. Use student recommendations to build the 2018 Opioid Prevention Youth Summit.