Dear Parents,

We’re excited that your students are making the transition into high school. Consistent with our desire to completely inform you about all things Young Life, this letter details some questions you may have as your child transitions from middle school WyldLife to high school Young Life.

When can my student attend Young Life events?
- Unlike WyldLife’s monthly meetings, Young Life offers 2 meetings on a weekly basis.
- Club is Tuesdays (starting date TBA) at 8:00pm
- Campaigners is every Friday morning at 6:00am
- Both Club and Campaigners will be at the Garage @ 19 Vitti Street

What is Club?
- A weekly meeting where high school students gather for music, entertainment, social interaction, and a short message about the Christian faith.
- While students may enter our program in a variety of ways, Club usually provides the best introduction for high school students. Kids need no prior knowledge/participation to enjoy Club!
- The meeting itself lasts about an hour. After the meeting, many students optionally choose to attend Wendy’s restaurant on route 123 in Norwalk. Some kids get picked up right after the meeting, some at Wendy’s. Kids depending on leaders for rides will often return home the latest because leaders are faithfully the last ones to depart Wendy’s.
- While all students, regardless of beliefs and behavior, are welcomed at all Young Life events, Club, in particular, intentionally reaches out to students of all backgrounds. While not condoning certain behavior such as smoking, foul language, etc, leaders maintain a safe and respectful environment free of judgment that welcomes every student as they are. At the same time, leaders take every possible step to ensure all behavior does not negatively influence students. We have seen many high school lives positively impacted through this grace-driven approach.

What is Campaigners?
- A weekly meeting where students gather for discussion, a closer look at the Bible, prayer, and application on how to live out the Christian faith.
- While there is always an open invitation, Campaigners is usually the “next step” of involvement after students attend Club or Camp.
- Campaigners also serves as “the student board” for Club and Camp.
What are the biggest differences between Young Life and WyldLife?

- Young Life holds weekly events for all students currently in grades 9-12.
- Young Life events are a bit shorter in duration and more consistent on a weekly basis.
- Some WyldLife leaders also serve as Young Life leaders; others do not and there are some that serve only as Young Life leaders that will welcome your students to the high school program.
- In Young Life, we trust your students more to communicate with you about their whereabouts, and to call you if they are going out with friends and/or leaders after Club and other events.
- Because Young Life is a program for all high school students, we do have senior students who drive and give rides to younger students. Parents who wish their children to ride with leaders only should make this clear to both their children and leaders.
- Leaders enjoy authentic and safe friendships with kids. With high school students this often means later nights of “hanging out.” Again, leaders trust students themselves to communicate with their parents about their whereabouts, curfews, etc and seek to follow all clearly communicated requests of parents.

What is the same about Young Life and WyldLife?

- We still have the same commitment to your kids, their safety, and fun.
- Kids can come whenever they want to any meetings they want—there is no membership fee or requirement.
- Like WyldLife, we have a high school summer camp, a winter weekend, and a few other special events throughout the year.
- All leaders have been thoroughly interviewed, screened, and trained to serve kids.

How can my student one day become a WyldLife leader?

- While each situation is unique, the first step to becoming a student leader in WyldLife usually is consistent participation in Campaigners for at least one year.
- We also provide many other leadership and service opportunities through Campaigners such as serving as Camp Leader or Camp Work Crew.
- We seek to give kids a new experience in Young Life, and as the opportunity presents itself, we will consider students as additions to the WyldLife team.

Once again, we welcome any questions you may have and will be sending out the fall schedule within the next month. We’re looking forward to the start of high school and seeing your students thrive!

Carly Funkhouser
WyldLife Director