

# D.A.R.E. 2024/2025

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF NEWBERG-DUNDEE D.A.R.E.



## NEW SCHOOL ADDED

This year we were able to add an additional school to our D.A.R.E. Program. What a treat it was to interact with the 12 5<sup>th</sup> graders at C.S. Lewis Academy this Spring!

Typically, Officer Stearns teaches at only the Newberg-Dundee Public Schools but this year, he was able to complete all of his classes in the Fall & Winter, leaving Spring Trimester available to float normal SRO duties, and also teach one additional class.

The students and staff at C.S. Lewis were welcoming and receptive to the D.A.R.E. curriculum and we hope to be able to continue this service next school year.



## CREATING A BRAND

If there is one thing students love...it's stickers. Not a day goes by where Officer Stearns doesn't hand out stickers. Some students have come to expect them, competing with each other to decorate their binders or lockers.

This last year Officer Stearns worked with a local graphic design studio and had his D.A.R.E. car turned into a sticker. These particular stickers are coveted amongst the students for sure.

The D.A.R.E. car continues to turn heads and is quickly becoming a staple in the community. It is a defining character that is easily recognizable and a welcome sight to all who see it.



# REFLECTION

By: Officer Stearns

What a joy it has been for me to teach D.A.R.E. to over 300 Newberg-Dundee 5<sup>th</sup> Graders! My 2<sup>nd</sup> year in the classroom was considerably more fluid and fun as I did not have to focus on the curriculum as much as I did that first year. I have found my "style" as a teacher and have embraced the fact that I am a "storyteller" by nature. Thankfully, the students seem to embrace stories above all else.

Developing those lasting relationships has been my goal and I am pleased with the results. Students know me. They are comfortable around the uniform. They cheer when they see me. I have no doubt in the future, if they need help, they know they have a trusted Officer they can call on.

This has been the goal, and through the time spent in their classrooms through D.A.R.E., the groundwork is being laid for lasting positive police interactions.

Second to the relationship building has been the actual D.A.R.E. curriculum, which has been proven effective and useful. My goal this year was for the students to really comprehend and take to heart the fact that each choice (risk) has a consequence. And that consequence will be either good, or bad. Good choices. Good consequences. Bad choices. Bad consequences. This is a life lesson worth learning early.

Students learn how to recognize and report bullying, to be a "bystander" that takes action, to communicate with confidence and several other life lessons.

I am confident these students have enough information to make safe and responsible decisions as they enter middle school.





SEPT 2025 - JUNE 2025



## DUNDEE ELEMENTARY

