

Press Release

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NHS Students Earn Prevention Grant from DA Morrissey

Needham High got the best of rival Wellesley in a different kind of contest this year, coming home with a check for \$1,500 from Norfolk DA Michael W. Morrissey.

"We use traditional school rivalries to encourage high schools to take part in a year-long series of prevention programs," District Attorney Morrissey said, after awarding Needham High their grant at his 2019 Peer Leadership Conference held at Gillette Stadium.

"This year, Needham scored a perfect 100 points for participating in Arbella Insurance's *Distractology* safe driving program, producing a public service announcement on substance use treatment, community service, and other activities," Morrissey said. "Only four schools had perfect scores."

Needham also placed first among all Norfolk County high schools in the community service portion of the competition – logging 370 hours of good deeds last year. Needham High School can use the \$1,500 grant to support their substance abuse education or other prevention programs.

"The same grant reward is on the table for this year, and both schools attended the Peer Leadership Conference during Thanksgiving week – so they are tied at 25 points toward that perfect 100," Morrissey said. "The point of the friendly competition is to foster constructive engagement – frankly I want them both to win."

The Conference, held November 26, was supported through a Drunk Driving Trust Fund Prevention, Education and Training grant.