

“By utilizing ‘Too Good for Drugs,’ we hope to reach kids while they are still young to teach them how to make responsible decisions. I believe this program will make a difference in years to come as the kids who participate utilize the skills and strategies they learn to stay away from opiates in the first place; this will be especially true if the curriculum were mandated and expanded to Pre-K-12.”

-BP ODDO

**BOROUGH PRESIDENT'S
DIRECT CONNECT SUNDAY**

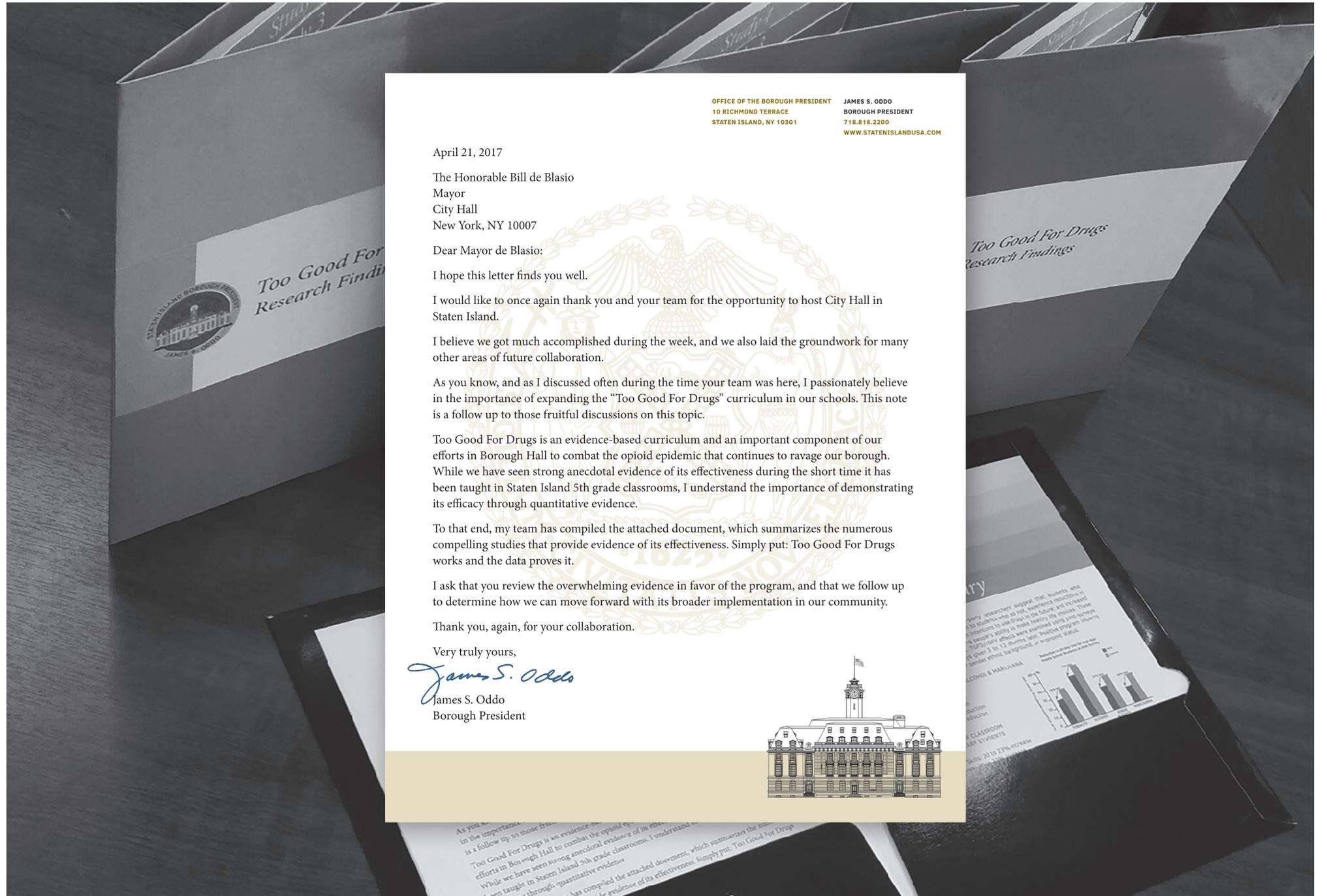
AT THE PETRIDES SCHOOL



HEALTH & WELLNESS **QUALITY OF LIFE** DEVELOPMENT TRANSPORTATION SAFETY JOBS RECREATION **EDUCATION** TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE

It's well known that the borough is in the throes of an opioid epidemic. BP Oddo, through his Substance Abuse Task Force, has put a great deal of focus on educating young people to avoid trying these deadly drugs in the first place.

First piloted in 2015, the **Too Good for Drugs** curriculum, which is co-taught by teachers and NYPD officers, debuted in a handful of 5th grade classes across Staten Island. In successive years, BP Oddo and former NYPD Borough Commander Edward Delatorre aggressively sought to expand the program. As a result, the program has grown to include all 5th, 7th, and 9th graders in 60 schools, reaching more than 15,000 students. The curriculum teaches skills young people need to resist peer pressure, communicate better, and reach their goals - all with the objective of preventing substance abuse.



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April 21, 2017

The Honorable Bill de Blasio
Mayor
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Dear Mayor de Blasio:

I hope this letter finds you well.

I would like to once again thank you and your team for the opportunity to host City Hall in Staten Island.

I believe we got much accomplished during the week, and we also laid the groundwork for many other areas of future collaboration.

As you know, and as I discussed often during the time your team was here, I passionately believe in the importance of expanding the “Too Good For Drugs” curriculum in our schools. This note is a follow up to those fruitful discussions on this topic.

Too Good For Drugs is an evidence-based curriculum and an important component of our efforts in Borough Hall to combat the opioid epidemic that continues to ravage our borough. While we have seen strong anecdotal evidence of its effectiveness during the short time it has been taught in Staten Island 5th grade classrooms, I understand the importance of demonstrating its efficacy through quantitative evidence.

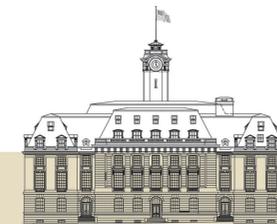
To that end, my team has compiled the attached document, which summarizes the numerous compelling studies that provide evidence of its effectiveness. Simply put: Too Good For Drugs works and the data proves it.

I ask that you review the overwhelming evidence in favor of the program, and that we follow up to determine how we can move forward with its broader implementation in our community.

Thank you, again, for your collaboration.

Very truly yours,

James S. Oddo
James S. Oddo
Borough President



Too Good For Drugs

SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION EDUCATION