

Dear Parent,

During the spring semester our school will be participating in the Arizona Youth Survey, a statewide prevention needs assessment of middle and high school students conducted by the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission on behalf of the State. The survey results will be used to inform existing and future substance use and delinquency prevention programs in our community. Questions in the survey will cover youth substance use, problematic behaviors, and the risk and protective factors related to those behaviors. The survey questions and related survey materials may be viewed at <https://www.azcjc.gov/Programs/Data-Integration-Analytics-Optimization/Statistical-Analysis-Center/Arizona-Youth-Survey> and a paper version of the survey is also available at the Principal's office.

Some important facts about the survey:

1. The survey is administered during one class period between January 24, 2024 – May 17, 2024. Schools have the option of administering the survey to students in grades 7-12. You may contact the school Principal to find out the scheduled administration date for students in each grade that will complete the survey.
2. The survey is anonymous. Students will be explicitly instructed to not put their names on the survey questionnaire. No one will be able to connect any individual student with his or her responses. School staff will not see any students' responses.
3. Participation in the survey is voluntary. Your child may decline to participate at any time or skip any question they do not wish to answer.
4. We believe there to be minimal risk involved in your son/daughter taking this survey. Some students may feel anxious, stressed, or embarrassed when asked questions about problematic behaviors, but your child can stop answering the survey questions at any time.

I hope that you will agree to allow your child to participate in this statewide effort that will help create better, more effective programming to combat the problem of alcohol and drug use by youth in our community. **If you agree, you do not need to do anything. If you do not wish your child to participate, please complete and return the attached denial of permission slip to your child's teacher as soon as possible and your child will be excused from participation.** Please know that per state law, parental written informed consent is not required for your child to participate in the Arizona Youth Survey.

If you have any questions regarding the survey or your child's participation, please contact me or Matt Bileski at the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission, who are responsible for the statewide administration of the survey, at mbileski@azcjc.gov. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

School Principal

I DO NOT give permission for my child to participate in the Arizona Youth Survey.

Please print clearly.

Child's Name: _____

Parent's Name: _____

Parent's Signature: _____

Date of Signature: _____

Child's Signature (optional): _____

Date of Signature: _____

