

Hazen Union School

Greensboro • Hardwick • Woodbury

Date February, 2019

Dear Hazen Family:

Our school is taking part in the 2019 Youth Risk Behavior Survey. This was developed in 1991 by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and is sponsored by the Vermont Department of Health and Agency of Education. The YRBS has been administered every other year in Vermont since 1993. The YRBS gathers information about health risk behaviors of 6th through 12th grade students. The survey will ask about nutrition, physical activity, injuries, sexual behaviors, tobacco, alcohol, and other drug use. Schools, communities and state agencies will use the results of the survey to evaluate programs, plan new programs and to secure future funding.

We are planning to administer the survey throughout March during Support Block.

The YRBS is anonymous and survey procedures have been designed to protect your child's privacy. Some students may find certain questions to be sensitive. However, students will not put their names on the survey. Individual survey responses will not be disclosed to any school employee nor will any student's name or survey responses be divulged in a report of the results.

For this survey to be accurate, it is important that all students, regardless of whether they have engaged in health-risk behaviors, are given an opportunity to participate in the survey. We would like all students to take part in the survey; however, the survey is voluntary. No student is required to take the survey. Students may skip any questions they do not wish to answer. In addition, students may stop taking the survey at any point without penalty. As a parent, you have the right to inspect the survey before it is administered and to opt your child out of participating in the survey. If you would like to see the survey, a copy is available at Hazen Union. If you have any questions or concerns, please call Allie O'Hara at 472-6511.

Please visit the Vermont Department of Health website at: <http://healthvermont.gov/yrbs> for more information about the Vermont YRBS including previous reports. Links to the CDC's YRBS page, FAQs, are available by clicking "Learn more about the YRBS" on the website.

Should you decide to opt your child out of taking the survey please inform us in writing by returning the enclosed form or a letter to us by Friday, March 8.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,



Allie O'Hara
Director of Guidance

Opt-Out Form

Please complete this form only if you do not want your child to participate in the survey and return it to [identify location or name and contact information]. **Form must be returned by Friday, March 8.**

Please return this form to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Student's name: _____ Grade: _____

I have read this form and know what the survey is about.

NO, my child may **not** take part in the 2019 Vermont YRBS.

Parent or Guardian's name: _____

Parent or Guardian's signature: _____ Date: _____

Phone number: _____