



West Irondequoit Central School District

IRONDEQUOIT HIGH SCHOOL
260 COOPER ROAD
ROCHESTER, NEW YORK 14617
Telephone: (585) 266-7351
Fax: (585) 336-2929
www.westirondequoit.org

March 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian of a 10th Grade Student:

Since 2020, Dake and Irondequoit High School have been participating in a research study to evaluate the effectiveness of the *Above the Influence of Vaping* program. The goal of *Above the Influence of Vaping* is to create a more positive school culture and help all students overcome negative influences including pressures to vape. The study is conducted by the University of Rochester, which is receiving funding from the National Institute of Drug Abuse.

What is the Above the Influence of Vaping?

Above the Influence of Vaping is a peer-led, substance use prevention program developed and pilot tested at the University of Rochester that works to promote healthy attitudes that help students rise above pressures to vape.

Because the goal is to see if the program is effective in changing students' attitudes and behaviors, the research team from the University of Rochester administered surveys to our students as part of baseline data collection. A copy of the survey will be available for parents to review in the IHS Main Office.

What is the role of students in the study?

In the next few weeks all 10th grade students in the school will be invited to complete their final 20-minute survey. The surveys will be completed on-line (by computer) through a secure server at the University of Rochester.

The survey asks students about: relationships with caring adults at home and school, friendships, attitudes about vaping and experiences with vaping products, feelings that students may experience and behaviors such as whether they seek out new experiences. At the end of the survey there is information provided on how students may seek help for themselves or others if needed. This information is also available for parents.

Students will not put their names on the surveys. The research team will not know which student completed which survey, nor will any information collected from an individual student on a survey be shared with the school staff. This study is focused on changing the overall school climate and student health. As a result, the study will not follow individual students over time for the purpose of providing any direct services to students. Identifiable information will be stored separately from survey responses.

Students have the right to "opt out" of participation in any survey at any time. They may also skip any questions that they do not want to answer. Students will neither be paid nor incur any cost to participate.

In order to collect study information, we need your permission to use and give out your child's personal health information. We will use survey forms to conduct the study. Once you give permission for the University of Rochester to collect your child's health information for this study, it will not expire unless you tell us you want to cancel it. We will keep the information we collect about your child until the completion of the study. Any identifying information will be destroyed upon completion of your school's involvement in the study. If you cancel your permission, by contacting your school's adult advisor or the Principal Investigator of this study (contact info below), your child will be removed from the study.

What is the school's role in the study?

Each year that our schools participate in the research project our staff will receive training about the peer leader training and how to support peer leaders and other students. Four to six staff members from our school will also receive training in mentoring student Peer Leaders who are trained in Above the Influence of Vaping.

"West Irondequoit Schools Are Community Schools"

As a parent, what is my role in the study?

If you **do not** wish for your child to participate in this research study by completing the survey, please sign and return this form to school.

What if I have questions?

If you have any questions about this survey, please call Lindsay Snyder at (585)336-2927, she is one of the Advisors for the *Above the Influence of Vaping* program at Dake.

You may also call the Principal Investigator for the study, Dr. Peter Wyman of the University of Rochester (585-273-3372).

Please contact the University of Rochester Research Subjects Review Board at 265 Crittenden Blvd., CU 420315, Rochester, NY 14642, Telephone (585) 276-0005 or (877) 449-4441 for the following reasons:

- You wish to talk to someone other than the research staff about your child’s rights as a research subject;
- To voice concerns about the research;
- To provide input concerning the research process;
- In the event the study staff could not be reached.

**RETURN THIS FORM ONLY IF YOU DO NOT WANT YOUR CHILD TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SURVEY –
RETURN BY THURSDAY March 27th**

**Send to: Lindsay Snyder
Irondequoit High School
260 Cooper Rd
Rochester, NY 14617**

___I would prefer that my child NOT participate in the *Above the Influence of Vaping* survey.

STUDENT NAME _____ **GRADE** _____

PARENT NAME (PRINT) _____

Parent Signature _____ **Date** _____