



Ludlow Independent Schools

525 Elm Street
Ludlow, KY 41016

Sept. 3, 2024

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are pleased to announce that the Ludlow Independent School District will participate in the Kentucky Incentives for Prevention (KIP) Youth Survey this fall. The survey is funded by Kentucky's Department for Behavioral Health, Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. The survey is designed to assess alcohol and drug use, as well as other behavioral health factors, among students in grades 6, 8, 10, and 12.

The KIP Survey informs school leaders about student issues, highlights concerns, and initiates action. Early identification and response to student needs increase the chance of positive, lasting impact.

The Ludlow Independent School District is participating in this important project in an effort to recognize and meet the health and wellbeing needs of our students.

Participation in the survey is optional, and students will not be penalized for non-participation. The survey is completely anonymous and confidential. Student names are not included, and information gathered from the survey cannot be traced back to individual students. Students complete the survey at school during a designated class period.

A fact sheet and permission form accompany this letter. We encourage you to support this project by completing the permission form and agreeing to let your child participate in the survey.

The survey questionnaire is available for review at the front office of your child's school. If you have questions about the survey, please contact Tonya Brummer at tonya.brummer@ludlow.kyschools.us.

Sincerely,

Travis Caudill
Andrea Krumpelman
Principal

Dr. Jason Steffen
Superintendent

Tonya Brummer
KIP Coordinator

KIP Youth Survey Fact Sheet

What is the KIP Youth Survey?

Kentucky's Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities, Division of Substance Use Disorder supports the implementation of KIP, our state's largest source of data related to youth use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs. KIP also addresses mental health, bullying, school safety, and other risk and protective factors associated with youth behavioral health. Information that is collected in the KIP Survey from students in grades 6, 8, 10, and 12, plays a key role in monitoring adolescent health and wellbeing, and helping communities have safe and drug-free schools. In 2021, over 93,000 students representing 127 school districts completed the survey, and the findings provided an invaluable substance use prevention and health promotion tool for those communities.

What is the purpose of the KIP Survey?

The purpose of the KIP Survey is to anonymously assess adolescent use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs (ATOD), as well as a number of additional factors related to adolescent social and emotional well-being, including school safety, mental health, bullying, relationship violence, school performance and community involvement. The survey provides information about student self-reported use of substances, student perceptions about substance use, and perceived accessibility of substances in the community. The students in the four participating grades will be asked to complete a survey that will be used for planning purposes only.

Results of the KIP Survey are an extremely important and helpful resource for schools. Survey results can:

- Indicate student needs related to mental health, bullying and school safety.
- Indicate how much and how often students are vaping, smoking, drinking alcohol or using other substances.
- Indicate at what age and grade level students are likely to begin using substances.
- Help the school and community make decisions about funding substance use prevention and behavioral health initiatives.
- Provide data that can help school systems and community groups obtain grants for student health and wellbeing programs.

Does my child have to complete the survey?

Participation in the survey is completely voluntary. Your child will not be penalized in any way if he/she refuses to participate. We are asking your permission for your child to participate in this survey. The survey will be conducted during a regular class period at school.

Will anyone know how my child answered the questions?

No. Your child's responses to the questions will be completely confidential. His or her name will not appear on the survey forms. The answers from all youth participants will be summarized so it will be

impossible to identify your child in the responses. When the data is collected it is transferred instantly and processed by an evaluation agency contracted to analyze the results.

What kinds of questions are on the survey?

Examples of questions to be asked in the KIP Survey are listed below by subject.

- Alcohol, tobacco, and drug use: How often (if ever) have you vaped in the past month (30 days)? On how many occasions (if any) have you had more than a sip or two of beer, wine, or hard liquor (for example, vodka, whiskey or gin) during the last 30 days? How often (if ever) have you used marijuana?
- School safety: How safe do you feel at school? Are there particular places at school where you feel unsafe? Are there certain times of day when you feel these places are unsafe?
- Sleep: On an average night, how many hours of sleep do you get?

Some questions contain sensitive information as we wish to identify both protective and risk factors in young people’s lives. Sensitive information includes questions about their mental health difficulties, substance use, self-harm, and bullying. Since 2001, this survey has been administered to thousands of students across the state. Because answering questions about personal and sensitive behaviors can be uncomfortable, students are assured that they may skip any questions they do not want to answer.

What benefits are there from my child participating in this research?

Although your child will not directly benefit from completing the survey, his/her answers—along with those of thousands of others—will provide valuable information that will be used to improve programs for youth in our community.

The survey questionnaire is available for review at the front office of your child’s school. If you have questions about the survey, please contact Tonya Brummer at tonya.brummer@ludlow.kyschools.us.

How do I give permission for my child to participate in the survey?

If you consent to your child’s participation in the KIP Survey, please provide your signature on Ludlow’s School Forms Signature Sheet. Sign your name in the space provided and return the form to school by September 13, 2024.