

2019 YOUTH RISK BEHAVIOR SURVEY

In order to better understand and address the health-related challenges affecting children and youth, Wilmington Public Schools is working with a coalition of cities and towns in Middlesex County to administer the 2019 Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS). The survey is based largely on a national survey that was developed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the national Center of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and asks about the health behaviors of middle school students. Specifically, the survey will ask questions about nutrition, physical activity, injuries, tobacco, alcohol, and other drug use. It will also ask about sexual behaviors that could lead to sexually transmitted diseases and pregnancy.

Students will be asked to complete the survey during one of your child's regular class periods. The survey will be administered online and will take approximately 30 minutes to complete. Students will complete the survey on March 13, 2019.

Completing the survey will cause little or no risk to your child. The only potential risk is that some students might find certain questions to be sensitive. We would like all students to take part in the survey, but the survey is completely voluntary. No action will be taken against the school, you, or your child if he/she opts not to take the survey. However, the more people who take the survey the more useful the data will be. Average results for the school will be made public in the fall of 2019 and will be used to improve the health and overall well-being of children and youth in Wilmington, Middlesex County, and across the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The survey and the data collection process have been designed to protect your child's privacy. The survey is anonymous and students are asked to not put their names on the survey. Also, no student will ever be mentioned by name in a report of the results. Students can skip any questions they do not wish to answer and can stop taking the survey at any point without penalty.

A copy of the survey will be available on the school district website @ <https://www.wpsk12.com/Page/211> for parents who wish to preview the survey. If you have additional questions about the survey, please contact Doreen Crowe at Doreen.crowe@wpsk12.com or 978-694-6060 x6614 or Christine Murray at Christine.murray@wpsk12.com or 978-694-6032 x1102.

Please complete the attached form only if you **do not** want your child to take part in the survey, and return the form to the building principal no later than **MARCH 11th**. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,



Dr. Glenn A. Brand
Superintendent of Schools



Doreen Crowe, MEd, BSN, RN
Director of Nursing Services



Christine Murray
Coordinator of Behavioral Health

**RETURN THIS FORM TO THE BUILDING PRINCIPAL
IF YOU DO NOT WANT
YOUR CHILD TO TAKE THE YOUTH RISK BEHAVIOR
SURVEY (YRBS)**

Please read the section below and check the box if you do not want your child to take part in the survey.

If you check the box "no" below, then sign this form and return it to the school **by MARCH 11TH**.

Please contact Doreen Crowe at Doreen.crowe@wpsk12.com or 978-694-6060 x6614 or Christine Murray at Christine.murray@wpsk12.com or 978-694-6032 x1102 if you have any questions.

Student's name: _____

Grade (please circle): 5 6 7 8

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

NO, my child may not take part in this survey.

Parent's signature: _____

Date: _____ Phone number: _____