



Pennsylvania Youth Survey

October 8, 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Our middle and high schools are taking part in the 2019 Pennsylvania Youth Survey (PAYS) sponsored by the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, the Pennsylvania Department of Education, and the Pennsylvania Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs. The results of the survey are used in the selection of programs to increase protective factors and reduce risk factors. The survey will ask questions about behaviors of students in 6, 8, 10, and 12 grades, including questions about school climate, violence, depression, bullying, and substance abuse.

- **Participation in this survey is completely voluntary.** Students will be instructed by their teacher that they can skip any questions they do not understand or choose not to answer.
- **The survey is designed to protect each student's privacy.** It is anonymous and confidential. Students will not put their names on the survey, and no student will ever have their individual responses reported.
- **The survey is well tested,** having been administered to over 1,000,000 Pennsylvania students since the 1990's. The information collected has proved invaluable to prevention planners in selecting programming to promote healthy youth development.

For more information about the survey, including a list of Frequently Asked Questions, please visit www.pays.pa.gov then click on "2019."

The survey will be administered during the school day during the week of October 21, 2019, at the Middle School and during the week of October 14, 2019, at the High School. If you do NOT want your child to participate, please email your child's name, grade, your name, your phone number, and the date with the statement, "My child may NOT participate in the PAYS survey" to:

MEMinacci@wyasd.k12.pa.us

at the Middle School

OR

WADull@wyasd.k12.pa.us

at the High School

You do not have to respond if you are allowing your child to participate. Please feel free to call the school with questions.