



McCall Middle School

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November 14, 2011

Dear McCall Parent/Guardian,

On Wednesday, December 14, 2011 our students will be taking part in the biennial Youth Risk Behavior Survey. This survey has been administered to students in Winchester for the past decade and will gather information about behaviors associated with health, safety, and protective factors for youth in Winchester.

The information collected by this survey will help educators working in Winchester improve the school's health education programs aimed at preventing and reducing health risks among our youth. The survey has the support of the Winchester School Committee, Winchester Board of Health, the Winchester Coalition for a Safer Community, Massachusetts Departments of Elementary and Secondary Education, Massachusetts Department of Public Health, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The plan is to administer this survey during Prime-Time on Wednesday, December 14, 2011. This is an anonymous paper and pencil survey, comprised of multiple-choice questions that should be completed in one class period. There are no physical tests or examinations involved in this survey. Valid results depend upon a high participation rate; however, your child's participation is entirely voluntary and anonymous. The survey will ask students questions about tobacco, alcohol, and other drug use; sexual behaviors; intentional and unintentional injuries; eating habits; and physical activity.

If you would like to preview the survey it is available at the Superintendent's office, McCall Middle School's main office, and Winchester High School's main office. In support of parent feedback requesting electronic access to the survey, you may view the survey on our district and school websites.

You are also invited to an informational meeting about the Youth Risk Behavior Survey that will take place on Wednesday, November 30, 2011 from 6:00-7:00 p.m. in the McCall Middle School auditorium. Ms. Dot Butler and Ms. Elizabeth Silva will be on hand to answer any questions parents may have. If you would like to speak to a parent representative whose child has participated in the survey, please contact Christa Russo at Richard.russo6@verizon.net.

If you do not wish for your child to participate in this survey, please complete the bottom portion of this form and return it to the main office on or before Friday, December 9, 2011. A copy of this letter may also be found on our school's website at http://www.edline.net/pages/McCall_Middle_School. Thank you for your cooperation in this important effort.

Sincerely,

Jorge Goncalves

My child, _____, will not be participating in the youth risk behavior survey.

He/She is in Grade _____. His/Her homeroom teacher is _____.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO THE MAIN OFFICE OF McCALL MIDDLE SCHOOL IF YOUR CHILD WILL NOT BE PARTICIPATING IN THIS SURVEY. THANK YOU.