



WINCHESTER HIGH SCHOOL

80 SKILLINGS ROAD
WINCHESTER, MASSACHUSETTS 01890-2899
(781) 721-7020

Thomas E. Gwin, Ed.D., Principal
Gerald Chapman, Asst. Principal
Susan Mochrie, Asst. Principal

November 14, 2011

Dear WHS Parents/Guardians,

On Friday, December 09th and Monday, December 12th our students take part in a youth risk behavior survey. This survey will gather information about behaviors associated with health and safety risks 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.

Our plan is to administer this survey during English classes on December 09th and December 12th. 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 exams involved in this survey. Your child's participation in the survey is voluntary and anonymous; no names will be used or reported. 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, and Winchester High School's main office.

You are also invited to an informational meeting about the youth risk behavior survey which will take place on Wednesday, November 30, 2011 from 6:00 ~ 7:00 pm 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 by Wednesday, December 07th. A copy of this letter may also be found on our school's website at http://www.edline.net/pages/Winchester_High_School. Thank you for your cooperation in this important effort.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Gwin, Ed.D.
Principal

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

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

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