## **Springfield Prevention Needs Assessment Survey (PNAS) 2022**

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

**Why is the survey being done? How will the results be used?**

Survey results will be used to inform programs, policies, and strategic interventions to improve health and wellbeing for Springfield’s teens. The data allows us to observe health risk behaviors overtime as well as evaluate and monitor the impact of local interventions and programming on these behaviors.

**Are sensitive questions asked?**

Some questions may be considered sensitive. Drug, alcohol and tobacco use, suicide, bullying, physical fighting, and weapon-carrying pose a threat to students’ health and lives. The only way to determine the extent to which adolescents are at-risk is to ask questions about these behaviors. Questions are presented in a straightforward and careful manner, in recognition that these are sensitive issues. School counseling staff are aware of survey administration and will be available to meet with students if needed.

**When will the survey administration take place?**

Survey administration will take place between February 7th and February 17th, with February 18th as a make-up day.

**How were students selected to be in the survey?**

All 8th, 10th, and 12th grade students enrolled in Springfield Public Schools are being asked to participate in the survey.

**How will the survey be administered?**

A teacher or student proctor will read directions to the class and then students will silently complete the survey on their computer. A teacher will be present in each room to provide support and troubleshoot any issues that may arise.

**What is the survey format and length?**

The survey will take approximately 45 to 60 minutes. It is administered online.

**Is student participation voluntary?**

Yes. Students are not required to take the survey, they can skip any questions, and they can stop the survey at any time. Students do not need written parent permission to participate; however, parents/guardians will have the opportunity to opt their children out by returning an opt-out form sent home prior to administration. There are no repercussions against the school, student, or parent/guardian if a student does not participate in the survey.

**Will student participation be anonymous?**

Yes. Survey administration procedures have been designed to protect student privacy and allow for anonymous participation. Students do not identify themselves on the survey and no personal identifiers or IP addresses are collected. Students’ names are ever used in reporting survey results.

**Will schools or students be identified in the results?**

School-level data will not be publicly available; however, the participating schools will receive a copy of their results to inform their programs in support of students.

**Whom can I contact about the survey?**

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