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November, 2018



STUDENT IDENTIFICATION SURVEY
 Avon Maitland District School Board

Dear Parents/Guardians Grades 7-12:

Ensuring equity is a central goal of Ontario’s publicly funded education system. It stems from a fundamental principle that every student should have the opportunity to succeed personally and academically, regardless of background, identity or personal circumstances.

As part of this vision, the Ministry of Education’s Equity Secretariat has approached Ontario school boards to pilot an identity-based data collection project. AMDSB accepted the opportunity and we are now progressing forward with the work. This board-wide voluntary student survey will enhance our knowledge of the self-identified composition of our students. Data collected will contribute to achieving our strategic outcomes: to create positive, inclusive learning environments and to maximize outcomes for students.

Grade 7-12 students will log into the survey using their Active Directory student login. The survey results are confidential but not anonymous. Only approved system staff will have access to the raw data.

The survey results will be used along with other types of data (e.g. demographic, school program, services and achievement) to: better understand and respond to diverse student populations and communities; identify and respond to barriers to student success; enhance the creation and distribution of programs and services. For example, it is our aim to use the data to examine areas within our board to implement culturally responsive teaching practices, which in turn improves student engagement. Furthermore, we can use the data when working with our community partners to examine student support resources both in the community and at school. System staff will share the anonymous base results of the survey in the form of infographic posters, which will also be shared on the board’s website.

To ensure that this student survey will reflect the voices of all students, it is important to have as many students complete the survey as possible. However, should you decide not to have your child participate in this survey, please fill out the form below and return it to your child’s school before November 23, 2018. If your child is a person with a disability and you do not believe he/she can complete the survey on his/her own, please contact your school to make arrangements to complete the survey on your child’s behalf.

Thank you for your support!

Dr. Lisa Walsh
 Director of Education

Identity Based Data Collection

Fill out this section only if you decide **not** to have your children participate in the student survey.

I do not wish my child(ren), _____,
 from this school _____ in grade(s) _____ to participate in the student survey during the
 month of December, 2018.

Parent/Guardian/Caregiver’s Name: _____ Signature: _____

Date: _____

Please tear off this section and return it to your child’s school before November 23, 2018. You may also call your school directly.

This letter and permission form are available in Dutch, German, Spanish, Arabic and Lao. Individuals may request a translated copy at their individual school.

Dutch

Een kopie van deze brief is beschikbaar in uw eigen taal. Neem a.u.b. contact op met de school om een vertaalde versie te krijgen. Hartelijk dank.

German

Eine Kopie dieses Briefes ist in Ihrer Sprache verfügbar. Bitte kontaktieren Sie Ihre Schule, um eine übersetzte Version zu erhalten. Vielen Dank.

Spanish

Esta carta está disponible en su idioma. Comuníquese con la escuela para recibir una versión traducida. Gracias.

Arabic

تتوفر نسخة من هذا الخطاب بلغتك. يرجى الاتصال بمدرستك للحصول على نسخة مترجمة. شكرًا لك.

Lao

ຈົດໝາຍສະບັບນີ້ ມີສໍາເນົາແປເປັນພາສາຂອງທ່ານ. ກະລຸນາຕິດຕໍ່ຫາໂຮງຮຽນຂອງທ່ານ ຖ້າຕ້ອງການເອກະສານສະບັບແປ. ຂອບໃຈ.