

HB

2017



Alaska State Legislature

Representative Peggy Wilson

House District 2

Putting Alaska's Families First

MEMORANDUM

Date: April 1, 2008

To: Senator Bettye Davis, Chair, Senate Health, Social Services, and Education Committee

From: Representative Peggy Wilson *qw*

Re: CSHB 207 – Student Questionnaires and Surveys

I would like to request CSHB 207 be calendared in Senate HESS pending referral. CSHB 207 will change the parental consent requirement for The Youth Risk Behavior Survey in schools from active to passive.

School based surveys continue to be a reliable method for gathering valuable population based information on youth. The current active consent overburdens the school system and significantly increases the costs involved in conducting student surveys. It is estimated that over 80% of the parents who do not return written permission for participation in surveys is not because they do not want their child to take the survey, but rather because of apathy, oversight or student error. This bill will change the current practice of active permission to passive permission so that the parent has the option to deny permission rather than the requirement to provide written permission.

Thank you for considering this important piece of legislation.

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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REPRESENTATIVE PEGGY WILSON
HOUSE DISTRICT 2

SPONSOR STATEMENT Committee Substitute House Bill 207

"An Act relating to questionnaires and surveys administered in the public schools."

HB 207 changes the parental consent requirements for Youth Risk Behavior Survey in schools from active to passive.

School-based surveys are a reliable method for gathering valuable population based information on youth that helps policy makers, educators, program planners and parents to better understand important health and social issues that affect their chances of success.

Routine standardized surveys such as the national and state Youth Risk Behavior Survey track trends over time and help guide and evaluate important health and prevention programs. State and federal grant programs that rely on these surveys include tobacco prevention and control, obesity prevention, diabetes, heart disease and stroke, safe and drug free schools and other substance abuse prevention, injury prevention, including violence and suicide prevention, HIV and STD prevention, and more.

Active parental consent requires written permission to opt in to participate in the survey. Active parental consent overburdens the school system and drastically increases the costs and labor involved in conducting student surveys. Though research and experience suggests that the vast majority of parents would consent to their students participating in such surveys, many schools are unable to use the data they collect because there are not enough participants. Most of the research indicates parental failures to provide written permission are driven by apathy, oversight, or student error, not by refusal. Passive parental consent notifies and informs the parents about the nature of the surveys and allows for parents to provide a written refusal to opt out of the survey.

Notification of surveys and their content will still be sent to every parent of a child that is a candidate participant in the survey. A parent will have the option of reviewing the entire survey and how it will be administered before it is administered. Any parent who doesn't want their child to participate will have the option to opt-out.

The House Rules Committee Substitute made a change to allow passive permission for the Youth Risk Behavior Survey.

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2007 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: 1
 Bill Version: CSHB 207(HES)
 (H) Publish Date: 4/13/07

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: Education
 Title Student Questionnaires and Surveys RDU Teaching & Learning Support
 Component Student and School Achievement
 Sponsor Representative Wilson
 Requester House HESS Component No. 2796

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
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FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type--Do not abbreviate)						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2007) cost: 0.0
 Mark this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2008 budget proposal:

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This bill has no fiscal impact on the Department of Education and Early Development. We are, therefore, submitting a zero fiscal note.

Prepared by: Terri Campbell Phone 907-465-8719
 Division: Teaching & Learning Support Date/Time 4/2/07 12:00 AM
 Approved by: Barbara Thompson, Deputy Commissioner Date 4/2/2007
 Agency: Education and Early Development

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2008 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: 2
 Bill Version: CSHB 207(RLS)
 (H) Publish Date: 4/1/08

Identifier (file name): HB 207:HB207-EED-TLS-03-28-08
 Title Student Questionnaires and Surveys.

Dept. Affected: Education & Early Development
 RDU Teaching & Learning Support
School & Student Achievement

Sponsor Representative Wilson
 Requester House Rules Component Number 2798

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note. Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	Appropriation Required	Information					
	FY 2009	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
Personal Services							
Travel							
Contractual							
Supplies							
Equipment							
Land & Structures							
Grants & Claims							
Miscellaneous							
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES							
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()							
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FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts							
1003 GF Match							
1004 GF							
1005 GF/Program Receipts							
TOTAL							
Other Interagency Receipts							
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2008) cost: _____

POSITIONS

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This bill has no fiscal impact on the Department of Education and Early Development. We are, therefore, submitting a zero fiscal note.

Prepared by: Richard Luther
 Division Commissioner's Office
 Approved by: Barbara Thompson, Interim Commissioner

Phone 465-2803
 Date/Time 3/28/08 9:00 AM
 Date 3/28/2008

2007 State and Local Youth Risk Behavior Survey

This survey is about health behavior. It has been developed so you can tell us what you do that may affect your health. The information you give will be used to develop better health education for young people like yourself.

DO NOT write your name on this survey. The answers you give will be kept private. No one will know what you write. Answer the questions based on what you really do.

Completing the survey is voluntary. Whether or not you answer the questions will not affect your grade in this class. If you are not comfortable answering a question, just leave it blank.

The questions that ask about your background will be used only to describe the types of students completing this survey. The information will not be used to find out your name. No names will ever be reported.

Make sure to read every question. Fill in the ovals completely. When you are finished, follow the instructions of the person giving you the survey.

Thank you very much for your help.

DIRECTIONS

- Use a #2 pencil only.
- Make dark marks.
- Fill in a response like this: A B C D
- If you change your answer, erase your old answer completely.

1. How old are you?
 A 12 years old or younger
 B 13 years old
 C 14 years old
 D 15 years old
 E 16 years old
 F 17 years old
 G 18 years old or older
2. What is your sex?
 A Female
 B Male
3. In what grade are you?
 A 9th grade
 B 10th grade
 C 11th grade
 D 12th grade
 E Ungraded or other grade
4. Are you Hispanic or Latino?
 A Yes
 B No
5. What is your race? (Select one or more responses.)
 A American Indian or Alaska Native
 B Asian
 C Black or African American
 D Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
 E White

6. How tall are you without your shoes on?

Directions: Write your height in the shaded blank boxes. Fill in the matching oval below each number.

Example

Height	
Feet	Inches
5	7
<input type="radio"/> 3	<input type="radio"/> 0
<input type="radio"/> 4	<input type="radio"/> 1
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> 2
<input type="radio"/> 6	<input type="radio"/> 3
<input type="radio"/> 7	<input type="radio"/> 4
	<input type="radio"/> 5
	<input type="radio"/> 6
	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
	<input type="radio"/> 8
	<input type="radio"/> 9
	<input type="radio"/> 10
	<input type="radio"/> 11

Height	
Feet	Inches
<input type="radio"/> 3	<input type="radio"/> 0
<input type="radio"/> 4	<input type="radio"/> 1
<input type="radio"/> 5	<input type="radio"/> 2
<input type="radio"/> 6	<input type="radio"/> 3
<input type="radio"/> 7	<input type="radio"/> 4
	<input type="radio"/> 5
	<input type="radio"/> 6
	<input type="radio"/> 7
	<input type="radio"/> 8
	<input type="radio"/> 9
	<input type="radio"/> 10
	<input type="radio"/> 11

7. How much do you weigh without your shoes on?

Directions: Write your weight in the shaded blank boxes. Fill in the matching oval below each number.

Example

Weight		
Pounds		
1	5	2
<input type="radio"/> 0	<input type="radio"/> 0	<input type="radio"/> 0
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 1
<input type="radio"/> 2	<input type="radio"/> 2	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<input type="radio"/> 3	<input type="radio"/> 3	<input type="radio"/> 3
	<input type="radio"/> 4	<input type="radio"/> 4
	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> 5
	<input type="radio"/> 6	<input type="radio"/> 6
	<input type="radio"/> 7	<input type="radio"/> 7
	<input type="radio"/> 8	<input type="radio"/> 8
	<input type="radio"/> 9	<input type="radio"/> 9

Weight		
Pounds		
<input type="radio"/> 0	<input type="radio"/> 0	<input type="radio"/> 0
<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 1	<input type="radio"/> 1
<input type="radio"/> 2	<input type="radio"/> 2	<input type="radio"/> 2
<input type="radio"/> 3	<input type="radio"/> 3	<input type="radio"/> 3
	<input type="radio"/> 4	<input type="radio"/> 4
	<input type="radio"/> 5	<input type="radio"/> 5
	<input type="radio"/> 6	<input type="radio"/> 6
	<input type="radio"/> 7	<input type="radio"/> 7
	<input type="radio"/> 8	<input type="radio"/> 8
	<input type="radio"/> 9	<input type="radio"/> 9

The next 4 questions ask about safety.

8. **When you rode a bicycle during the past 12 months, how often did you wear a helmet?**
- A. I did not ride a bicycle during the past 12 months
 - B. Never wore a helmet
 - C. Rarely wore a helmet
 - D. Sometimes wore a helmet
 - E. Most of the time wore a helmet
 - F. Always wore a helmet
9. **How often do you wear a seat belt when riding in a car driven by someone else?**
- A. Never
 - B. Rarely
 - C. Sometimes
 - D. Most of the time
 - E. Always
10. **During the past 30 days, how many times did you ride in a car or other vehicle driven by someone who had been drinking alcohol?**
- A. 0 times
 - B. 1 time
 - C. 2 or 3 times
 - D. 4 or 5 times
 - E. 6 or more times
11. **During the past 30 days, how many times did you drive a car or other vehicle when you had been drinking alcohol?**
- A. 0 times
 - B. 1 time
 - C. 2 or 3 times
 - D. 4 or 5 times
 - E. 6 or more times

The next 11 questions ask about violence-related behaviors.

12. **During the past 30 days, on how many days did you carry a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club?**
- A. 0 days
 - B. 1 day
 - C. 2 or 3 days
 - D. 4 or 5 days
 - E. 6 or more days

13. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you carry a gun?
- A 0 days
 - B 1 day
 - C 2 or 3 days
 - D 4 or 5 days
 - E 6 or more days
14. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you carry a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club on school property?
- A 0 days
 - B 1 day
 - C 2 or 3 days
 - D 4 or 5 days
 - E 6 or more days
15. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you not go to school because you felt you would be unsafe at school or on your way to or from school?
- A 0 days
 - B 1 day
 - C 2 or 3 days
 - D 4 or 5 days
 - E 6 or more days
16. During the past 12 months, how many times has someone threatened or injured you with a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club on school property?
- A 0 times
 - B 1 time
 - C 2 or 3 times
 - D 4 or 5 times
 - E 6 or 7 times
 - F 8 or 9 times
 - G 10 or 11 times
 - H 12 or more times
17. During the past 12 months, how many times has someone stolen or deliberately damaged your property such as your car, clothing, or books on school property?
- A 0 times
 - B 1 time
 - C 2 or 3 times
 - D 4 or 5 times
 - E 6 or 7 times
 - F 8 or 9 times
 - G 10 or 11 times
 - H 12 or more times

18. During the past 12 months, how many times were you in a physical fight?
- (A) 0 times
 - (B) 1 time
 - (C) 2 or 3 times
 - (D) 4 or 5 times
 - (E) 6 or 7 times
 - (F) 8 or 9 times
 - (G) 10 or 11 times
 - (H) 12 or more times
19. During the past 12 months, how many times were you in a physical fight in which you were injured and had to be treated by a doctor or nurse?
- (A) 0 times
 - (B) 1 time
 - (C) 2 or 3 times
 - (D) 4 or 5 times
 - (E) 6 or more times
20. During the past 12 months, how many times were you in a physical fight on school property?
- (A) 0 times
 - (B) 1 time
 - (C) 2 or 3 times
 - (D) 4 or 5 times
 - (E) 6 or 7 times
 - (F) 8 or 9 times
 - (G) 10 or 11 times
 - (H) 12 or more times
21. During the past 12 months, did your boyfriend or girlfriend ever hit, slap, or physically hurt you on purpose?
- (A) Yes
 - (B) No
22. Have you ever been physically forced to have sexual intercourse when you did not want to?
- (A) Yes
 - (B) No

The next 5 questions ask about sad feelings and attempted suicide. Sometimes people feel so depressed about the future that they may consider attempting suicide, that is, taking some action to end their own life.

23. During the past 12 months, did you ever feel so sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks or more in a row that you stopped doing some usual activities?
- (A) Yes
 - (B) No
24. During the past 12 months, did you ever seriously consider attempting suicide?
- (A) Yes
 - (B) No
25. During the past 12 months, did you make a plan about how you would attempt suicide?
- (A) Yes
 - (B) No
26. During the past 12 months, how many times did you actually attempt suicide?
- (A) 0 times
 - (B) 1 time
 - (C) 2 or 3 times
 - (D) 4 or 5 times
 - (E) 6 or more times
27. If you attempted suicide during the past 12 months, did any attempt result in an injury, poisoning, or overdose that had to be treated by a doctor or nurse?
- (A) I did not attempt suicide during the past 12 months
 - (B) Yes
 - (C) No

The next 11 questions ask about tobacco use.

28. Have you ever tried cigarette smoking, even one or two puffs?
- (A) Yes
 - (B) No
29. How old were you when you smoked a whole cigarette for the first time?
- (A) I have never smoked a whole cigarette
 - (B) 8 years old or younger
 - (C) 9 or 10 years old
 - (D) 11 or 12 years old
 - (E) 13 or 14 years old
 - (F) 15 or 16 years old
 - (G) 17 years old or older

30. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you smoke cigarettes?
- (A) 0 days
 - (B) 1 or 2 days
 - (C) 3 to 5 days
 - (D) 6 to 9 days
 - (E) 10 to 19 days
 - (F) 20 to 29 days
 - (G) All 30 days
31. During the past 30 days, on the days you smoked, how many cigarettes did you smoke per day?
- (A) I did not smoke cigarettes during the past 30 days
 - (B) Less than 1 cigarette per day
 - (C) 1 cigarette per day
 - (D) 2 to 5 cigarettes per day
 - (E) 6 to 10 cigarettes per day
 - (F) 11 to 20 cigarettes per day
 - (G) More than 20 cigarettes per day
32. During the past 30 days, how did you usually get your own cigarettes? (Select only one response.)
- (A) I did not smoke cigarettes during the past 30 days
 - (B) I bought them in a store such as a convenience store, supermarket, discount store, or gas station
 - (C) I bought them from a vending machine
 - (D) I gave someone else money to buy them for me
 - (E) I borrowed (or bummed) them from someone else
 - (F) A person 18 years old or older gave them to me
 - (G) I took them from a store or family member
 - (H) I got them some other way
33. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you smoke cigarettes on school property?
- (A) 0 days
 - (B) 1 or 2 days
 - (C) 3 to 5 days
 - (D) 6 to 9 days
 - (E) 10 to 19 days
 - (F) 20 to 29 days
 - (G) All 30 days

34. Have you ever smoked cigarettes daily, that is, at least one cigarette every day for 30 days?
- (A) Yes
 - (B) No
35. During the past 12 months, did you ever try to quit smoking cigarettes?
- (A) I did not smoke during the past 12 months
 - (B) Yes
 - (C) No
36. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you use **chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip**, such as Redman, Levi Garrett, Beechnut, Skoal, Skoal Bandits, or Copenhagen?
- (A) 0 days
 - (B) 1 or 2 days
 - (C) 3 to 5 days
 - (D) 6 to 9 days
 - (E) 10 to 19 days
 - (F) 20 to 29 days
 - (G) All 30 days
37. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you use **chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip on school property?**
- (A) 0 days
 - (B) 1 or 2 days
 - (C) 3 to 5 days
 - (D) 6 to 9 days
 - (E) 10 to 19 days
 - (F) 20 to 29 days
 - (G) All 30 days
38. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you smoke **cigars, cigarillos, or little cigars?**
- (A) 0 days
 - (B) 1 or 2 days
 - (C) 3 to 5 days
 - (D) 6 to 9 days
 - (E) 10 to 19 days
 - (F) 20 to 29 days
 - (G) All 30 days

The next 6 questions ask about drinking alcohol. This includes drinking beer, wine, wine coolers, and liquor such as rum, gin, vodka, or whiskey. For these questions, drinking alcohol does not include drinking a few sips of wine for religious purposes.

39. During your life, on how many days have you had at least one drink of alcohol?
- A 0 days
 - B 1 or 2 days
 - C 3 to 9 days
 - D 10 to 19 days
 - E 20 to 39 days
 - F 40 to 99 days
 - G 100 or more days
40. How old were you when you had your first drink of alcohol other than a few sips?
- A I have never had a drink of alcohol other than a few sips
 - B 8 years old or younger
 - C 9 or 10 years old
 - D 11 or 12 years old
 - E 13 or 14 years old
 - F 15 or 16 years old
 - G 17 years old or older
41. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you have at least one drink of alcohol?
- A 0 days
 - B 1 or 2 days
 - C 3 to 5 days
 - D 6 to 9 days
 - E 10 to 19 days
 - F 20 to 29 days
 - G All 30 days
42. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you have 5 or more drinks of alcohol in a row, that is, within a couple of hours?
- A 0 days
 - B 1 day
 - C 2 days
 - D 3 to 5 days
 - E 6 to 9 days
 - F 10 to 19 days
 - G 20 or more days

43. During the past 30 days, how did you usually get the alcohol you drank?
- (A) I did not drink alcohol during the past 30 days
 - (B) I bought it in a store such as a liquor store, convenience store, supermarket, discount store, or gas station
 - (C) I bought it at a restaurant, bar, or club
 - (D) I bought it at a public event such as a concert or sporting event
 - (E) I gave someone else money to buy it for me
 - (F) Someone gave it to me
 - (G) I took it from a store or family member
 - (H) I got it some other way
44. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you have at least one drink of alcohol on school property?
- (A) 0 days
 - (B) 1 or 2 days
 - (C) 3 to 5 days
 - (D) 6 to 9 days
 - (E) 10 to 19 days
 - (F) 20 to 29 days
 - (G) All 30 days

The next 4 questions ask about marijuana use. Marijuana also is called grass or pot.

45. During your life, how many times have you used marijuana?
- (A) 0 times
 - (B) 1 or 2 times
 - (C) 3 to 9 times
 - (D) 10 to 19 times
 - (E) 20 to 39 times
 - (F) 40 to 99 times
 - (G) 100 or more times
46. How old were you when you tried marijuana for the first time?
- (A) I have never tried marijuana
 - (B) 8 years old or younger
 - (C) 9 or 10 years old
 - (D) 11 or 12 years old
 - (E) 13 or 14 years old
 - (F) 15 or 16 years old
 - (G) 17 years old or older

47. During the past 30 days, how many times did you use marijuana?
- A 0 times
 - B 1 or 2 times
 - C 3 to 9 times
 - D 10 to 19 times
 - E 20 to 39 times
 - F 40 or more times
48. During the past 30 days, how many times did you use marijuana on school property?
- A 0 times
 - B 1 or 2 times
 - C 3 to 9 times
 - D 10 to 19 times
 - E 20 to 39 times
 - F 40 or more times

The next 9 questions ask about other drugs.

49. During your life, how many times have you used any form of cocaine, including powder, crack, or freebase?
- A 0 times
 - B 1 or 2 times
 - C 3 to 9 times
 - D 10 to 19 times
 - E 20 to 39 times
 - F 40 or more times
50. During the past 30 days, how many times did you use any form of cocaine, including powder, crack, or freebase?
- A 0 times
 - B 1 or 2 times
 - C 3 to 9 times
 - D 10 to 19 times
 - E 20 to 39 times
 - F 40 or more times
51. During your life, how many times have you sniffed glue, breathed the contents of aerosol spray cans, or inhaled any paints or sprays to get high?
- A 0 times
 - B 1 or 2 times
 - C 3 to 9 times
 - D 10 to 19 times
 - E 20 to 39 times
 - F 40 or more times

52. During your life, how many times have you used **heroin** (also called **smack, junk, or China White**)?
- A. 0 times
 - B. 1 or 2 times
 - C. 3 to 9 times
 - D. 10 to 19 times
 - E. 20 to 39 times
 - F. 40 or more times
53. During your life, how many times have you used **methamphetamines** (also called **speed, crystal, crank, or ice**)?
- A. 0 times
 - B. 1 or 2 times
 - C. 3 to 9 times
 - D. 10 to 19 times
 - E. 20 to 39 times
 - F. 40 or more times
54. During your life, how many times have you used **ecstasy** (also called **MDMA**)?
- A. 0 times
 - B. 1 or 2 times
 - C. 3 to 9 times
 - D. 10 to 19 times
 - E. 20 to 39 times
 - F. 40 or more times
55. During your life, how many times have you taken **steroid pills or shots** without a doctor's prescription?
- A. 0 times
 - B. 1 or 2 times
 - C. 3 to 9 times
 - D. 10 to 19 times
 - E. 20 to 39 times
 - F. 40 or more times
56. During your life, how many times have you used a needle to inject any **illegal drug** into your body?
- A. 0 times
 - B. 1 time
 - C. 2 or more times

57. During the past 12 months, has anyone offered, sold, or given you an illegal drug on school property?

- (A) Yes
- (B) No

The next 7 questions ask about sexual behavior.

58. Have you ever had sexual intercourse?

- (A) Yes
- (B) No

59. How old were you when you had sexual intercourse for the first time?

- (A) I have never had sexual intercourse
- (B) 11 years old or younger
- (C) 12 years old
- (D) 13 years old
- (E) 14 years old
- (F) 15 years old
- (G) 16 years old
- (H) 17 years old or older

60. During your life, with how many people have you had sexual intercourse?

- (A) I have never had sexual intercourse
- (B) 1 person
- (C) 2 people
- (D) 3 people
- (E) 4 people
- (F) 5 people
- (G) 6 or more people

61. During the past 3 months, with how many people did you have sexual intercourse?

- (A) I have never had sexual intercourse
- (B) I have had sexual intercourse, but not during the past 3 months
- (C) 1 person
- (D) 2 people
- (E) 3 people
- (F) 4 people
- (G) 5 people
- (H) 6 or more people

62. Did you drink alcohol or use drugs before you had sexual intercourse the last time?

- (A) I have never had sexual intercourse
- (B) Yes
- (C) No

63. The last time you had sexual intercourse, did you or your partner use a condom?
- (A) I have never had sexual intercourse
 - (B) Yes
 - (C) No
64. The last time you had sexual intercourse, what one method did you or your partner use to prevent pregnancy? (Select only one response.)
- (A) I have never had sexual intercourse
 - (B) No method was used to prevent pregnancy
 - (C) Birth control pills
 - (D) Condoms
 - (E) Depo-Provera (injectable birth control)
 - (F) Withdrawal
 - (G) Some other method
 - (H) Not sure

The next 7 questions ask about body weight.

65. How do you describe your weight?
- (A) Very underweight
 - (B) Slightly underweight
 - (C) About the right weight
 - (D) Slightly overweight
 - (E) Very overweight
66. Which of the following are you trying to do about your weight?
- (A) Lose weight
 - (B) Gain weight
 - (C) Stay the same weight
 - (D) I am not trying to do anything about my weight
67. During the past 30 days, did you exercise to lose weight or to keep from gaining weight?
- (A) Yes
 - (B) No
68. During the past 30 days, did you eat less food, fewer calories, or foods low in fat to lose weight or to keep from gaining weight?
- (A) Yes
 - (B) No
69. During the past 30 days, did you go without eating for 24 hours or more (also called fasting) to lose weight or to keep from gaining weight?
- (A) Yes
 - (B) No

70. During the past 30 days, did you take any diet pills, powders, or liquids without a doctor's advice to lose weight or to keep from gaining weight? (Do not include meal replacement products such as Slim Fast.)

- A Yes
- B No

71. During the past 30 days, did you vomit or take laxatives to lose weight or to keep from gaining weight?

- A Yes
- B No

The next 8 questions ask about food you ate or drank during the past 7 days. Think about all the meals and snacks you had from the time you got up until you went to bed. Be sure to include food you ate at home, at school, at restaurants, or anywhere else.

72. During the past 7 days, how many times did you drink 100% fruit juices such as orange juice, apple juice, or grape juice? (Do not count punch, Kool-Aid, sports drinks, or other fruit-flavored drinks.)

- A I did not drink 100% fruit juice during the past 7 days
- B 1 to 3 times during the past 7 days
- C 4 to 6 times during the past 7 days
- D 1 time per day
- E 2 times per day
- F 3 times per day
- G 4 or more times per day

73. During the past 7 days, how many times did you eat fruit? (Do not count fruit juice.)

- A I did not eat fruit during the past 7 days
- B 1 to 3 times during the past 7 days
- C 4 to 6 times during the past 7 days
- D 1 time per day
- E 2 times per day
- F 3 times per day
- G 4 or more times per day

74. During the past 7 days, how many times did you eat green salad?

- A I did not eat green salad during the past 7 days
- B 1 to 3 times during the past 7 days
- C 4 to 6 times during the past 7 days
- D 1 time per day
- E 2 times per day
- F 3 times per day
- G 4 or more times per day

75. During the past 7 days, how many times did you eat **potatoes**? (Do not count french fries, fried potatoes, or potato chips.)
- A. I did not eat potatoes during the past 7 days
 - B. 1 to 3 times during the past 7 days
 - C. 4 to 6 times during the past 7 days
 - D. 1 time per day
 - E. 2 times per day
 - F. 3 times per day
 - G. 4 or more times per day
76. During the past 7 days, how many times did you eat **carrots**?
- A. I did not eat carrots during the past 7 days
 - B. 1 to 3 times during the past 7 days
 - C. 4 to 6 times during the past 7 days
 - D. 1 time per day
 - E. 2 times per day
 - F. 3 times per day
 - G. 4 or more times per day
77. During the past 7 days, how many times did you eat **other vegetables**? (Do not count green salad, potatoes, or carrots.)
- A. I did not eat other vegetables during the past 7 days
 - B. 1 to 3 times during the past 7 days
 - C. 4 to 6 times during the past 7 days
 - D. 1 time per day
 - E. 2 times per day
 - F. 3 times per day
 - G. 4 or more times per day
78. During the past 7 days, how many times did you drink a can, bottle, or glass of soda or pop, such as Coke, Pepsi, or Sprite? (Do not include diet soda or diet pop.)
- A. I did not drink soda or pop during the past 7 days
 - B. 1 to 3 times during the past 7 days
 - C. 4 to 6 times during the past 7 days
 - D. 1 time per day
 - E. 2 times per day
 - F. 3 times per day
 - G. 4 or more times per day

79. During the past 7 days, how many glasses of milk did you drink? (Include the milk you drank in a glass or cup, from a carton, or with cereal. Count the half pint of milk served at school as equal to one glass.)
- (A) I did not drink milk during the past 7 days
 - (B) 1 to 3 glasses during the past 7 days
 - (C) 4 to 6 glasses during the past 7 days
 - (D) 1 glass per day
 - (E) 2 glasses per day
 - (F) 3 glasses per day
 - (G) 4 or more glasses per day

The next 5 questions ask about physical activity.

80. During the past 7 days, on how many days were you physically active for a total of at least 60 minutes per day? (Add up all the time you spend in any kind of physical activity that increases your heart rate and makes you breathe hard some of the time.)
- (A) 0 days
 - (B) 1 day
 - (C) 2 days
 - (D) 3 days
 - (E) 4 days
 - (F) 5 days
 - (G) 6 days
 - (H) 7 days
81. On an average school day, how many hours do you watch TV?
- (A) I do not watch TV on an average school day
 - (B) Less than 1 hour per day
 - (C) 1 hour per day
 - (D) 2 hours per day
 - (E) 3 hours per day
 - (F) 4 hours per day
 - (G) 5 or more hours per day

82. On an average school day, how many hours do you play video or computer games or use a computer for something that is not school work? (Include activities such as Nintendo, Game Boy, PlayStation, Xbox, computer games, and the Internet.)
- (A) I do not play video or computer games or use a computer for something that is not school work
 - (B) Less than 1 hour per day
 - (C) 1 hour per day
 - (D) 2 hours per day
 - (E) 3 hours per day
 - (F) 4 hours per day
 - (G) 5 or more hours per day
83. In an average week when you are in school, on how many days do you go to physical education (PE) classes?
- (A) 0 days
 - (B) 1 day
 - (C) 2 days
 - (D) 3 days
 - (E) 4 days
 - (F) 5 days
84. During the past 12 months, on how many sports teams did you play? (Include any teams run by your school or community groups.)
- (A) 0 teams
 - (B) 1 team
 - (C) 2 teams
 - (D) 3 or more teams

The next 3 questions ask about other health-related topics.

85. Have you ever been taught about AIDS or HIV infection in school?
- (A) Yes
 - (B) No
 - (C) Not sure
86. Has a doctor or nurse ever told you that you have asthma?
- (A) Yes
 - (B) No
 - (C) Not sure

87. Do you still have asthma?
- A I have never had asthma
 - B Yes
 - C No
 - D Not sure

**This is the end of the survey.
Thank you very much for your help.**

RECEIVED
APR 12 2007

George W. Brown, MD
Community Pediatrician
1640 Second St. Douglas, AK 99824 907 364 2726 gwbrown76@yahoo.com

Representative Peggy Wilson
Alaska State Capitol Room 403
Juneau, AK 99801

April 11, 2007

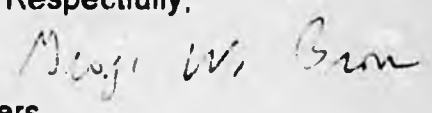
Dear Representative Wilson:

Thank you for the opportunity to speak on behalf of HB 207 yesterday. Since returning to Juneau after 1 & 1/2 years medical work in Kenya, I sense a fresh wind is blowing for the future of Alaska. The discussion about HB 207 is an example. I know you and your legislative colleagues must look hard at state government costs. It is also obvious that all the requests and worthwhile ideas thrown at you cannot be supported. Making and sticking with priorities is hard work. The study your HESS committee did last year is an example.

One of the most important priorities for Alaska's future is her children. I am most grateful SB 4 and CS for HB 198 have addressed Denali Kid Care (DKC). Yet for children, it is necessary to promote further improvements for child health care access. SB 87, as well as HB140, aims to do this. Their ultimate goal is extending DKC to 200% of the federal poverty level for all and to 300% for families willing and able to provide a co-pay. Such increase in access to child health care will cost us state dollars for many years. But, as Dr. Monica Gross said in her testimony for HB 140, the process of getting many more children into regular medical care (we call it their "medical homes") means work on prevention and on-going health education for parents and children. It is a pleasure to see hard working families bring in their children for regular well child and adolescent care to receive these preventive and education services. Public health and child health economists have calculated the cost savings from such regular care which decreases emergency room and hospital use. This gives back \$4.50 to DKC for every \$1 spent.

Please make HB 140 a priority for consideration through the necessary committee process so it, or a similar CS, will go for a floor vote this session. As citizens continue to see the legislative and administration work of consensus and cooperation this year, the "answer" truly seems to be "blowing in the wind".

Respectfully,



cc: House and Senate Finance and Rules members



American Heart Association | American Stroke Association

Learn and Live.

Pacific/Mountain Affiliate
3700 Woodland Drive, Suite 700
Anchorage, AK 99517-2555
907.865.5303 (phone)
888.276.0858 (toll-free)
907.865.5310 (fax)
americanheart.org

April 11, 2007

Representative Peggy Wilson
State Capitol, Room 403
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative Wilson:

The American Heart Association is writing to you in support of HB 207, a bill that would change the requirements of parental consent for students to participate in anonymous questionnaires and surveys. Currently, parents must actively consent in order for their child to participate in anonymous surveys about student health and behavior. If HB 207 were to become law, parents and students could still opt out of participation, but if they declined to opt out, their consent to participate would be implied.

The American Heart Association is a national voluntary health agency whose mission is to reduce disability and death from cardiovascular diseases and stroke. The American Heart Association supports HB 207 because it would make it feasible to collect weighted, statistically significant data to accomplish important public health tasks like tracking childhood physical activity levels, and ensuring that tobacco prevention programs directed at our youth are on-target and actually effective in reducing tobacco use.

By allowing the state to track the health of our children, HB 207 will result in better, more effective programs directed at Alaska's children, and ultimately reduce preventable threats to cardiovascular health like tobacco use and chronic obesity.

Thank you,

Suzanne Meunier
Director of Advocacy

From: Chris Chandler & Randy Magen [mailto:chrisrandy@gci.net]
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2007 1:10 PM
To: Rep. Peggy Wilson
Subject: HB 207

Dear Representative Peggy Wilson,
I support your efforts with HB 207:

HB 207, an act relating to questionnaires and surveys administered in schools, sponsored by Representative Peggy Wilson, changes the permission required for students to participate from active to passive. That means a student participates unless a parent/guardian says "no". As you may recall, the permission requirement was changed to active in the late 1990's with the result that survey data collected was insufficient or not valid for use. The Youth Risk Behavioral Survey (YRBS) suffered the most.

As a Family Nurse Practitioner Graduate Student and am currently completing a thesis on adolescent and young adult males and sexual risk taking behaviors. It has been extremely difficult, if not impossible to find appropriate outlets to gather information for my survey. I support your effort in bring this bill into action.
Christine Chandler, RN, BSN, MSN/FNP graduate student

From: Redwood, Diana [mailto:dredwood@anmc.org]
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2007 9:55 AM
To: Rep. Peggy Wilson
Cc: Rep. Bob Roses; Rep. Anna Fairclough; Rep. Mark Neuman; Rep. Paul Seaton; Rep. Sharon Cissna; Rep. Berta Gardner
Subject: *****SPAM***** FW: HB 207, House H&SS Thursday at 3PM, change permission for surveys

Good morning,

I just wanted to take a moment to voice my support for HB 207, an act relating to questionnaires and surveys administered in schools, changing the permission required for students to participate from active to passive. Information from surveys such as the YRBS are vital to preventing and reducing health risks.

I am in full support of this bill, and hope that it passes into law. Thank you for the opportunity to write.

Sincerely,
Diana Redwood

Diana Redwood, MS, MPH
Nutrition Research Specialist
Office of Alaska Native Health Research
Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium
4315 Diplomacy Dr
Anchorage AK 99508
Phone: 907.729.3959
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E-mail: dredwood@anmc.org



YRBSS

Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System

What is the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS)?

The YRBSS was developed in 1990 to monitor priority health risk behaviors that contribute markedly to the leading causes of death, disability, and social problems among youth and adults in the United States. These behaviors, often established during childhood and early adolescence, include

- Tobacco use.
- Unhealthy dietary behaviors.
- Inadequate physical activity.
- Alcohol and other drug use.
- Sexual behaviors that contribute to unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV infection.
- Behaviors that contribute to unintentional injuries and violence.

What are the purposes of the YRBSS?

The YRBSS was designed to

- Determine the prevalence of health risk behaviors.
- Assess whether health risk behaviors increase, decrease, or stay the same over time.
- Examine the co-occurrence of health risk behaviors.
- Provide comparable national, state, and local data.
- Provide comparable data among subpopulations of youth.
- Monitor progress toward achieving the Healthy People 2010 objectives and other program indicators.

What are the components of the YRBSS?

The YRBSS includes national, state, and local school-based surveys of representative samples of 9th through 12th grade students. These surveys are conducted every two years, usually during the spring semester. The national survey, conducted by CDC, provides data representative of high school students in public and private schools in the United States. The state and local surveys, conducted by departments of health and education, provide data representative of public high school students in each state or local school district.

The YRBSS also includes additional national surveys conducted by CDC:

- The Youth Risk Behavior Survey, conducted in 1992 as a follow back to the National Health Interview Survey among nearly 11,000 persons aged 12-21 years.
- The National College Health Risk Behavior Survey, conducted in 1995 among a representative sample of about 5,000 undergraduate students.
- The National Alternative High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey, conducted in 1998 among a representative sample of almost 9,000 students in alternative high schools.
- A series of methodological studies conducted in 1992, 2000, 2002, and 2004 to improve the quality and interpretation of the YRBSS data.

Where can I find more information? Visit <http://www.cdc.gov/yrbss> or call 1-800-CDC-INFO (624-6113).



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION





ESEA Information Update

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction/Elizabeth Burmaster, State Superintendent, P.O. Box 7841/Madison, WI 53707-7841

Bulletin No. 02.14

Created: April 11, 2003
Updated: August 4, 2003

Topic: Student Surveys

In January 2002, the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) was amended by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 2001 (also known as the No Child Left Behind Act). The amendment added an additional category (religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or student's parent) to the existing categories that impact student surveys and made minor changes to the existing seven categories. If a survey contains one or more of the identified categories, schools and contractors must protect student privacy and give parents the right to inspect the survey. The eight categories are:

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parent
2. Mental and psychological problems of the student or the student's family;
3. Sex behavior or attitudes
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior
5. Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships
6. Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians, and ministers
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or student's parent
8. Income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program).

A local educational agency (LEA) that receives funds under any U.S. Department of Education program is required to develop and adopt policies, in consultation with parents, concerning student privacy. The policies relating to surveying of students must address:

- The right of parents to inspect, upon request, a survey created by a third party before the survey is administered or distributed by a school to students, and procedures for granting a parent request to access the survey within a reasonable period of time after the request is received
- Arrangements to protect student privacy in the event of the administration of a survey to students, including the right of parents to inspect, upon request, the survey if the survey contains one or more of the eight categories of information noted above.

However, an LEA is not required to develop and adopt new policies if it has in place -- and did so on the date of enactment of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 2001 -- policies covering the requirements set forth in the law.

LEAs must directly notify parents of these policies, and at a minimum, they shall provide the notice at least annually, at the beginning of the school year. Also, an LEA shall notify parents

Copies of this and other ESEA Information Updates can be found at www.dpi.state.wi.us/dpi/esea

within a reasonable period of time if any substantive change is made to the policies. In the notification, the LEA shall:

- Provide an opportunity for parents to opt out of (remove their child from) participation in the administration of any survey containing one or more of the eight categories of information noted above, and
- Provide parents with the specific or approximate dates during the school year when the surveys are scheduled.

Confusion often exists about prior written parental consent, also known as "active" parental permission, and if it is required before a student may participate in a survey that asks for personal information described in PPRA (e.g., sexual behavior, illegal or antisocial behavior, and mental or psychological problems). Examples of common surveys used in Wisconsin that collect personal information are the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) and the Search Institute Profiles of Student Life: Attitudes and Behaviors. Currently, PPRA only requires active parental permission before minor students are required to participate in any survey, funded in whole or in part by the U.S. Department of Education that reveals information concerning one or more of the eight categories noted above. Most student surveys administered in Wisconsin, such as the YRBS, are voluntary, and if administered properly (students are instructed on the voluntary nature), active parental permission is not required and "passive" parental permission is allowable. "Passive" means the parent is provided an opportunity to opt out of (remove the child from) participation. The district may assume parental consent if they hear no timely objection from the parent.

Specific questions related to this bulletin should be directed to:

Doug White, Director
Student Services/Prevention and Wellness Team
(608) 266-5198
douglas.white@dpi.state.wi.us

References:

- 1 U.S. Department of Education, Family Policy Compliance Office, (2002) Hot topics: Recent changes affecting FERPA & PPRA (http://www.ed.gov/offices/OM/fpco/hot_topics/ht_10-28-02.html) Washington, D.C.
- 2 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Division of Adolescent School Health, (2002) Parental Permission: Conducting a successful Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) with Active Parental Permission. Atlanta, GA.



May 1, 2007

The Honorable Jay Ramras, Chair
House Judiciary Committee
Alaska State Capitol, Room 118
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

RE: HB 207 (Wilson)--Support

Dear Chair Ramras:

On behalf of the members of AARP in Alaska, we strongly encourage you and your colleagues on the House Judiciary Committee to support HB 207, authored by Representative Peggy Wilson.

AARP is the world's largest organization of grandparents. There are over 89,000 AARP members in Alaska. Most of our members benefited from participating in America's public education program. We are strong supporters of public education. We understand that, to be successful, educators must be able to secure information that aids in their decision-making. This includes student surveys.

Currently parents must opt-in to have their students participate in surveys. HB 207 would return us to our previous system in which a parent would have to opt-out if they did not wish their child to participate in a survey.

Knowing how difficult the current situation has been for successful surveys, AARP supports HB 207, recognizing that surveys of students will only be worthwhile if sufficient numbers participate. The grandparents of AARP support public education and successful survey research for our Alaska students.

We urge an "AYE" vote on HB 207.

Should you have any questions about our position, please feel free to contact me (586-3637) or Patrick Luby, AARP Advocacy Director (907-762-3314).

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Marie Darlin

Marie Darlin, Coordinator
AARP Capital City Task Force
415 Willoughby Avenue, Apt. 506
Juneau, AK 99801
586-3637 (voice)
463-3580 (fax)

CC: Vice-Chair Nancy Dahlstrom
Representative John Coghill
Representative Ralph Samuels
Representative Max Gruenberg
Representative Lindsey Holmes
Representative Bob Lynn
Representative Peggy Wilson

May 1, 2007

Representative Peggy Wilson
P.O. Box 109
Wrangell, AK 99929

RE: HB207—Student Questionnaires and Surveys

Dear Rep. Wilson:

Please accept this letter from the Mat-Su Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition in support of HB 207, an Act relating to questionnaires and surveys administered in the public schools.

A project of United Way of Mat-Su and its diverse community partners, the Mat-Su Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition is a collaborative effort involving the following organizations: Alaska Family Services, Inc., Alaska State Troopers—Palmer Post, Daybreak Inc., the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District, Mat-Su Health Foundation, Mat-Su Health Services Inc., Mat-Su Regional Medical Center, Nugen's Ranch, Palmer Police Department, State of Alaska, Division of Behavioral Health, Wasilla Police Department, United Way of Mat-Su, Valley Christian Conference and Valley Pastors' Prayer Network.

Through the Mat-Su Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition, the above community agencies and their representatives have committed to develop and implement a comprehensive multi-faceted plan leading to measurable per capita reductions in one or more substance abuse problems. The recently signed Memorandum of Understanding among these organizations demonstrates a coordinated effort to maximize community resources and provide a more integrated approach to reduce substance abuse among youth and, over time, among adults by addressing the factors in our community that increase the risk of substance abuse and promoting the factors that minimize the risk of substance abuse.

To this end, the above agencies have agreed to participate at the agency level in the collection and assessment of data and to share that data with coalition members in order to define the problems, resources and readiness within the Matanuska-Susitna Borough to address needs and gaps with regard to the substance abuse issue. Our coalition is committed to developing a comprehensive, strategic and data-driven plan that includes policies, programs and practices to address problems identified through the assessment process.

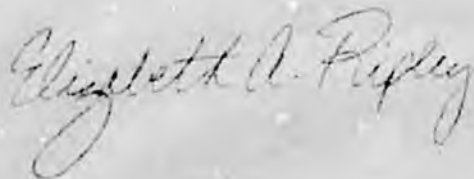
The Alaska Youth Risk Behavior Survey is an important tool in understanding how many youth are engaged in substance abuse, what substances they are using, at what age they started and how they obtained the substance. Due to current State statute AS 14.03.110, the response rate of the 2005 YRBS was so low that the results could not be tallied or released to Mat-Su Borough school district officials. Our coalition could not examine the data or adjust our goals and objectives to implement evidence-based prevention programs, policies and practices in our community. We can't combat what we don't thoroughly understand or know.

The language in HB 207 allows parents to opt out of the survey for their children, thereby providing those who object a fair and equitable way to prevent their children from participating in the survey. The

Mat-Su Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition acknowledges that this opportunity to object is necessary and supports this measure. However, most of the research indicates that parental failures to provide a written permission are driven by apathy, oversight or student error, not by refusal. The current statute results in extremely low response by parents, an inadequate response rate for the survey, and therefore a statistically significant margin of error.

If the Mat-Su Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition succeeds in reducing substance abuse by youth in our community, everyone wins: every parent, child, school, business, neighborhood, and provider. To build this healthier community, we need access to valid and reliable anonymous data about our youth. We fully endorse HB 207 to this end. Many thanks for your efforts!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elizabeth A. Ripley". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

**Elizabeth Ripley
Chair, Mat-Su Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition**



ALPHA

ALASKA PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

Committed To Advancing Alaska's Public Health Since 1978

February 8, 2008

The Honorable Peggy Wilson, Chair
House Health, Education and Social Services Committee
Alaska State Capitol, Room 403
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

RE: HB 207

Dear Representative Wilson:

The Alaska Public Health Association strongly supports HB 207. Creating effective programs to improve the health status of Alaska's children requires a means to gather accurate and meaningful data. School districts are having difficulty meeting the required 60% return rate for Youth Risk Behavior Survey data. HB 207, while retaining the parental notifications in current law that protect parents' right of involvement, returns Alaska to the previous system in which a parent may opt-out if they did not wish their child to participate in a survey.

ALPHA urges passage of HB 207.

Please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Debra Caldera, RN, MPH
Board President

GUIDELINES FOR PASSIVE CONSENT

Based on recent change to state law,¹ CDE has determined that under certain circumstances LEAs conducting the California Healthy Kids Survey (CHKS) have the option of using passive parental consent, rather than active (written) consent as previously required.² Under passive-consent procedures, parents/guardians inform the school only if they *don't want* their child to participate in a study (opt out).³ To adopt passive consent, the following conditions must be met:

- The survey is limited to grades 7 through 12. Passive consent cannot be used below grade 7.⁴
- It is anonymous, confidential, and voluntary. Active consent must still be used if respondent data are linked to a respondent's name in any form or manner, such as in longitudinal tracked surveys.
- The school board formally adopts, in consultation with parents, a written passive consent policy for the administration of the CHKS (and any other survey or test) consistent with California Education Code sections 51513 and 51938(b) and the federal Protection of Pupil Rights Act (PPRA), 20 USC 1232h.
- Parents/guardians are notified in writing at the beginning of the school year about the survey and when it is to be administered, and given a reasonable opportunity to review the survey and to decline their child's participation (opt out).
- Parents/guardians are notified of any substantive changes in survey policies, dates, or content that occur after the initial notification.
- The parental notice contains all the required elements specified in the CHKS Guidebook for protection of human subjects and in the federal Protection of Pupil Rights Act.
- Questions are not added to the survey that elicit reports of parental attitudes or behaviors or any other category that requires active consent under Ed Code 51513 but not exempted under Ed Code 51938.

The following guidelines are designed to help you determine whether you should switch from written to passive consent and the steps you should take if you decide to make the change.

Benefits of Passive Consent

- Passive consent involves less cost and labor, particularly for the classroom teacher.
- If you have *not* been successful in meeting your target sample using written consent, passive consent will likely increase your response rates.
- Research also suggests that passive consent will result in a more representative sample, as many hard-to-reach subgroups, including groups at high-risk of substance use and other problem behaviors, are underrepresented in written consent surveys.⁵

¹ See Education Code 51938(b), which stipulates: "Notwithstanding Section 51513, anonymous, voluntary, and confidential research and evaluation tools to measure pupils' health behaviors and risks, including tests, questionnaires, and surveys containing age appropriate questions about the pupil's attitudes concerning or practices relating to sex may be administered to any pupil in grades 7 to 12, inclusive, if the parent or guardian is notified in writing that this test, questionnaire, or survey is to be administered and the pupil's parent or guardian is given the opportunity to review the test, questionnaire, or survey and to request in writing that his or her child not participate."

² Written consent requirements and strategies are detailed in the CHKS Guidebook, available online at www.wested.or/hks

³ As described in the CHKS Guidebook, under active-consent procedures parents must confirm in writing that they consent or not, usually by signing and returning a form. If a form is not returned, it must be assumed that parental permission is not granted.

⁴ Education Code 51938(b) authorizes passive consent only for grades 7 through 12 (see note 1)

Considerations for Changing from Active to Passive Consent

- **Written consent provides extra protection** against surveying a student whose parents did not receive notification or did not approve of participation but failed to inform the school. This extra protection may be important if risk behavior surveys are a sensitive issue in your community.
- If passive consent reduces the burden on the classroom teacher, **schools must take special precautions** to demonstrate that they made every reasonable effort possible to inform parents about the survey (and any subsequent changes) and to give them opportunities to opt out.
- If your sample changes (e.g., becomes more representative), it will **complicate interpretation of current trends**. Did student behavior change or the sample? Most research suggests reported AOD use will increase. WestEd will provide talking points to address this issue.
- **If you have been meeting your target response rates using written consent**, you might want to continue using it to avoid the issues listed above, especially if your district will still need to use written consent with 5th grade.

Recommendations for Passive Consent Implementation

Survey procedures must ensure that parents receive the consent materials, pay attention to them, and have sufficient time and opportunities to refuse participation. To assure PPRA compliance and reduce the risk of inadvertently surveying a child without parent permission, we recommend the following:

- **Stress that survey participation is voluntary in all communications.** This is a key requirement for the use of passive consent procedures in the PPRA. Notify students in writing and verbally (before survey administration) that they have the right to decline participation and to not answer any question that makes them uncomfortable. Make sure nothing is done that might cause a student to feel uncomfortable if he doesn't want to participate.
- **Send all consent information and forms via a method that guarantees receipt**, such as by mail. Preferably, use a method that documents receipt. For example, the information can be put into a parent handbook that the parent signs for.
- **Use multiple contact techniques.** Do everything possible to insure parents receive notification.
- **Make sure all materials are language appropriate** for parents with limited English reading ability.⁶
- **Make disapproval notification convenient.** Again, use multiple venues: a written form that can be turned into a teacher, a phone number to call, or email address. Each channel should reach a single person or office, identified in district policies, responsible for monitoring consent. This will help avoid parent refusals from slipping through the cracks.
- **Document** all your efforts to notify parents.

***For more information about consent procedures,
call your regional CHKS advisor at 888.841.7536.***

⁵ The application of active-consent procedures to anonymous, voluntary surveys with rigorous data safeguards and minimal risks to students—such as the CHKS—has been criticized for jeopardizing access to essential information by imposing overly rigid, stringent, and costly consent procedures.

⁶ CDE policy is that, in addition to English, notification must also be in each primary language other than English where 15 percent of the students speak that primary language.

1998 Alaska Statute

Sec. 14.03.110. Questionnaires and surveys administered in public schools.

A school district, principal or other person in charge of a public school, or teacher in a public school may not administer or permit to be administered in a school a questionnaire or survey, whether anonymous or not, that inquires into private family affairs of the student not a matter of public record or subject to public observation unless written permission is obtained from the student's parent or guardian.

1999 Alaska Statute

Sec. 14.03.110. Questionnaires and surveys administered in public schools.

(a) A school district, principal or other person in charge of a public school, or teacher in a public school may not administer or permit to be administered in a school a questionnaire or survey, whether anonymous or not, that inquires into personal or private family affairs of the student not a matter of public record or subject to public observation unless written permission is obtained from the student's parent or legal guardian.

(b) For an anonymous questionnaire or survey, written permission required under (a) of this section may be obtained annually and is valid until the commencement of the subsequent school year or until the parent or legal guardian who gave permission submits a written withdrawal of permission to the school principal. The school shall provide each student's parent or legal guardian at least two weeks' notice before administering a questionnaire or survey described under this subsection.

(c) If a school administers to a student a questionnaire or survey that is not anonymous, the school shall obtain the written permission required under (a) of this section from the student's parent or legal guardian at least two weeks before the questionnaire or survey is administered.

(d) The school shall give a student's parent or guardian an opportunity to review the questionnaire or survey described under (b) or (c) of this section and shall give the parent or guardian written notice regarding

- (1) how the questionnaire or survey will be administered to the student;
- (2) how the results of the survey or questionnaire will be used; and
- (3) who will have access to the questionnaire or survey.

(e) A student may refuse to participate in a questionnaire or survey administered in a public school. A student's parent or legal guardian may refuse to allow the student to participate in a specified questionnaire or survey.