

Please send from the OHYES! email.

Subject: **Have you heard about the Ohio Healthy Youth Environments Survey (OHYES!)?**



Dear Superintendent,

Have you heard about the Ohio Healthy Youth Environments Survey (OHYES!)? It is a free resource to all Ohio schools. It is a voluntary, on-line survey schools can use with students in grades 7-12 to collect local data you can use in determining areas of critical need and in allocating resources to create healthy and safe school environments.

The OHYES! gathers data on health risk and protective factors facing Ohio's young people: Alcohol, Tobacco & Vapor Products, Marijuana, Prescription Drugs, Illicit Drugs (New), Bullying, Safety and Violence, Physical Health & Well-being, Mental Health and Suicide, School Climate & Safety, Gambling, Family & Peer Factors, School Success, Community Environment, and Demographics. The survey was revised for Fall 2019; the current version of the survey includes 110 questions, with an additional nine sex-related questions optional for district leadership to include.

The online survey only takes an average of 15-20 minutes for youth to complete on computers, laptops, and tablets. Schools have flexibility in selecting what works best for them, what grades and classes are surveyed and when the survey is administered. We are asking that schools at a minimum include grades 7 and 11.

In a couple weeks, you will receive an email with your link to enroll your schools to participate for the upcoming school year. You will be able to select the schools and grades that you want to participate and select the survey version for each school. Principals receive an email confirmation and supply names of school staff to assist in planning. OHYES! will then contact Principals and school staff with planning and administration information.

District and school-level results are available to Superintendents and Principals on the Ohio Department of Health Data Warehouse. Additionally, beginning this year a generated report will be available with a signed Memorandum of Understanding. County summary results (when more than 1 district participates) are available to the public on our website, on the Ohio's Behavioral Health Network of Care and on the Ohio Department of Health Data Warehouse.

OHYES! is a collaborative effort by the Ohio Departments of Education, Health, and Mental Health & Addiction Services, and representatives from Ohio National Guard, higher education, juvenile courts, foundations and community service providers.

Please visit the OHYES! website, www.ohyes.ohio.gov, for more information.

Thank you,
The OHYES! Team

➤ **How Do You Sign-Up?**

- We recruit participation every four years, school year 2019-2020 is our second time recruiting participation. We are available upon request every year.
- You will receive an email with your link to enroll using the Registration Site in a couple weeks.
- You will be able to select the schools and grades that you want to participate.
- You decide which version of the survey to administer:
 - Default version: 110-items
 - Optional version: 119 items with 9 sex-related questions.
 - You can choose which version of the survey each school will use.
- After enrolling, email notifications will be sent to your building Principals. Principals will complete registration by providing contact information for additional school staff to help them. OHYES! will then send planning and administration information to the Principal and school staff.
- ***The last day for Superintendents to register is August 31, 2019.***
- Superintendents can also Opt Out their district in the Registration Application. If you do not sign up, or opt out, beginning in September your Principals will have the option to participate.

➤ **About the survey**

- Survey participation is voluntary.
- The online survey takes an average of 15-20 minutes to complete.
- The survey is available for all students in grades 7-12; however, we are asking that schools at a minimum include grades 7 and 11. You can select the grades when you enroll.
- Principals notify parents and plan the data collection, for example what classes will take the survey and when.
- We recommend schools try to collect data on all students in the selected grades that attend on the day(s) the survey is administered, this is called a census and gives the school the best chance of having enough data to get results by gender or grade.
- We have heard from schools that the most convenient survey window is during October and November and hope you will administer the survey during this window; however, the survey is available throughout the entire school year.
- Passive consent process: materials are available on our website to assist you in notifying parents/guardians. OHYES! requires 3 weeks notification of parents prior to giving the survey.
- Student responses are completely anonymous. Students can opt out of taking the survey, skip any question, or quit at any time.

➤ **After you sign-up:** Please contact your principals, parent groups and community leaders to generate awareness and direct them to the website to learn more www.ohyes.ohio.gov.

➤ **Results will be available online**

- Data are available twice annually. Data collected in fall semester are usually available beginning in March. Data collected in spring semester are usually available beginning in August.

- District and School data are available only to Superintendents and Principals. County-summary data are available to the public if more than 1 district in the county participates.
 - Data are available (see the Results tab on our website):
 1. Ohio Department of Health Data Warehouse
 2. Ohio University
 3. Ohio Behavioral Health Network of Care (only available annually)
 - Training and technical assistance on how to use the online data warehouse are available.
- **Need More Information? Check our website: www.ohyes.ohio.gov.** Or email info@ohyes.ohio.gov or call 1-866-563-6904.