



Rye City School District

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Rye, New York 10580

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Brian D. Monahan, Ph.D.

Interim Superintendent of Schools

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November 2016

Dear RCSD Parent or Guardian,

Alcohol and drug abuse among youth is a challenge faced by many communities across the nation. It is the Rye City School District's hope that education related to the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse can help prevent students from engaging in unhealthy behavior. To that end, once again this year, we will be asking students in grades 7-12 to complete a survey that will assist us as we work with our community partners to help our students make good decisions.

The survey is designed to help our community understand the risks our students may face regarding smoking, underage drinking, drug use, and other high-risk behaviors. It is our hope that the survey results will assist the District and other community-based organizations, such as Rye-ACT, in tailoring our education efforts to meet identified needs. The survey data will also serve as a benchmarking tool, so we can see if and how attitudes towards drug and alcohol use change over time.

ISA/Pride Surveys, a national youth survey organization, has been hired by the District to process and analyze the results and will provide us with a District level report. That report will be analyzed in partnership with the Iona College Center for Social Research in order to inform the prevention work of the Rye-ACT coalition and its partners.

The survey will be administered to students in grades 7-12 in accordance with survey guidelines. Each student will be asked to fill out a paper questionnaire which can be completed in one class period. The questionnaire, once completed, will be machine read and then destroyed. The following are facts about the survey:

1. It is totally voluntary. Your child does not have to participate and does not have to give a reason for not participating. On the day of the survey, your child will be asked whether or not he or she wishes to participate and will be assigned an alternative activity (e.g., reading a book) if he or she declines to participate. Your child's participation, or non-participation, will not affect other relationships or services he or she is entitled to as a student of this school. Students who participate in the survey will not be required to answer all questions, only those that they want to answer.
2. It is totally anonymous. The survey is designed to protect your child's privacy. No names or any other identifying information will ever be recorded.

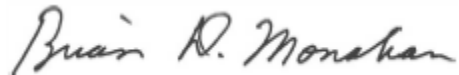
3. The Rye City School District and its community partners will use the school district level survey results to better plan prevention efforts.

A copy of the survey is available at the Principal's Office of your child's school for review.

If you approve your child's participation, you do not need to return this form. If you do **not** want your child to participate, simply sign and return the attached refusal form to your child's principal by November 14, 2016. If you return the form, your child will be given an alternative activity to do during the survey period.

Thank you for your assistance. This survey is an important part of our efforts to keep our children healthy and safe. I hope you will allow your child to participate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brian D. Monahan".

Brian D. Monahan, Ph.D.
Superintendent

Rye City School District

2016 PRIDE SURVEY

Parent/Guardian Refusal Form

If you DO NOT want your child to participate, please complete and sign this form:

I do not give my consent for my child(ren),

1. _____,
(child's name)
2. _____,
(child's name)
3. _____,
(child's name)
4. _____,
(child's name)
5. _____,
(child's name)

to participate in the 2016 PRIDE Survey.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____ - _____ - 16

If you do not want your child to participate, please deliver or mail this form by November 14, 2016 to the Middle or High School Principal's Office:

Principal's Office
Rye Middle School
3 Parsons Street
Rye, NY 10580

OR

Principal's Office
Rye High School
1 Parsons Street
Rye, NY 10580