

**Sample
School Climate Survey
Letter to Parents/Guardians**

April 1, 2019

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Dr. Edwin M. Quezada
Superintendent of Schools

Dear Parent/Guardian of Students,

The Yonkers Public Schools is conducting a School Climate Survey to gather information about the school's effects on students. There are questions about school discipline, student support, student engagement, and safety conditions in each of our schools. We will be surveying our students, parents and guardians, school teachers, administrators and non-instructional staff. This information will be used to guide our educational practices and programs that support safe and orderly school learning communities.

The Student Survey will be given to grades 5 through 12 during the school day beginning Wednesday, May 8, 2019. It is an online survey that covers a wide range of topics related to school climate, including questions concerning school engagement, school safety, and school environment. The survey does not ask about your child's personal experiences, but rather asks about their perceptions of safety, student engagement and the environment of the school. Some questions ask about teasing and bullying that students may have observed at school and whether other students have been bullied. In addition to these questions, there are a small number of questions about gang activity, aggressive attitudes, and alcohol and drug consumption.

All of the questions have been reviewed by District staff and are appropriate for school-aged students. Students will access a secure web-based survey program called Survate using their Yonkers Public Schools logins. A copy of the Student Survey is available at your child's school for your review as well as on the District's website in the Family section, www.yonkerspublicschools.org/school-climate-survey-student.

If you do not want your child to take the student survey, please notify your child's principal in writing by Wednesday, May 1, 2019. The survey is voluntary and no action will be taken against the school, you, or your child if your child does not participate.

Thank you for your cooperation in this important study of our schools to better understand the effects on students, including teaching practices; diversity; and the relationships among administrators, teachers and students.

Sincerely,



Dr. Edwin M. Quezada