



**JAFFREY-RINDGE**  
COOPERATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT

**CONANT HIGH SCHOOL**  
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Dear Parents,

On May 6, 2015 Conant High School students will participate in the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) sponsored by the NH Department of Education and Health and Human Services. Below is an informational Fact Sheet and on the other side of this letter is a parental opt-out form. We hope to have all our students participate in this confidential survey as we feel the information is valuable to us and the state in helping students.

Sincerely,

Larry Pimental  
Principal

### 2015 NH Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)

#### Fact Sheet

- Q. Why is the survey being done?**  
**A.** The Departments of Education and Health and Human Services will use survey results to help measure how many youth practice health-risk behaviors. Survey results also will be used to create school and community health programs to help reduce these behaviors.
- Q. Are sensitive questions asked?**  
**A.** Yes. Some questions are sensitive. To help solve health problems among our youth, we must first understand them. For example, AIDS is a major health problem. Sexual intercourse and injecting illegal drugs are behaviors that increase the risk of getting AIDS. The only way to learn if youth are at risk of getting AIDS is to ask questions about these behaviors. Attempted suicide, tobacco use, alcohol and other drug use, and weapon carrying are also sensitive issues. Therefore, survey questions are written in a direct but sensitive way.
- Q. Will students' names be used or linked to the surveys?**  
**A.** No. The surveys have been designed to protect each student's privacy. Students do not put their name on the survey. When students finish the survey, they place the survey in an envelope, which is sealed and placed in a big box.
- Q. Do students take the survey more than once to see how their behaviors change?**  
**A.** No. Each year a new sample of schools and classrooms is picked. Students who take part one year cannot be tracked because their names are not on the survey.
- Q. How was my child picked to be in the survey?**  
**A.** Classrooms of students in grades 9 through 12 will be randomly selected to participate in the State Sample survey. Schools participating in the 2015 YRBS will survey all of their high school students.
- Q. How long does it take to fill out the survey? Does the survey include a physical test?**  
**A.** One class period is needed to fill out the written survey, which has 99 questions. The survey does not include a physical test or exam.
- Q. Who supports this survey?**  
**A.** These surveys were created by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and are supported by many NH organizations interested in the health of youth including the N.H. Pediatric Society. People from over 100 state and local health and education agencies and 19 federal agencies helped develop the survey.

**2015 NH Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)  
Parental Opt Out Form**

Our school is taking part in the 2015 Youth Risk Behavior Survey sponsored by the New Hampshire Departments of Education and Health and Human Services. These research surveys will ask about the health behaviors of 9th through 12th grade students. The **YRBS** will ask about nutrition, physical activity, injuries, tobacco, alcohol, and other drug use. It will also ask about sexual behaviors that cause AIDS, other sexually transmitted diseases, and pregnancy.

Students will be asked to fill out a questionnaire that takes about 45 minutes to complete.

Doing these paper and pencil surveys will cause little or no risk to your child. The only potential risk is that some students might find certain questions to be sensitive. The surveys have been designed to protect your child's privacy. Students will not put their names on the surveys. Also, no class or student will ever be mentioned by name in the results. The results of this survey will help students in the future. We would like all selected students to take part in the survey, **but the surveys are voluntary**. No action will be taken against the school, you, or your child if your child does not participate. Students can skip any question that they do not wish to answer. In addition, students may stop participating in the survey at any point without penalty.

Please read the section below. **If you do NOT want your student to take part in the survey** check the box and return the form to the school no later than 5/1/15. Please see the attached form for more facts about the surveys. If the student's teacher or principal cannot answer your questions about either survey, please call the Department of Health and Human Services at 603-271-4988.

Copies of the survey questionnaires are available at school if you wish to review them.

Thank you.